SUNDAY
March 19, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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THE HINDU ON SUNDAY

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

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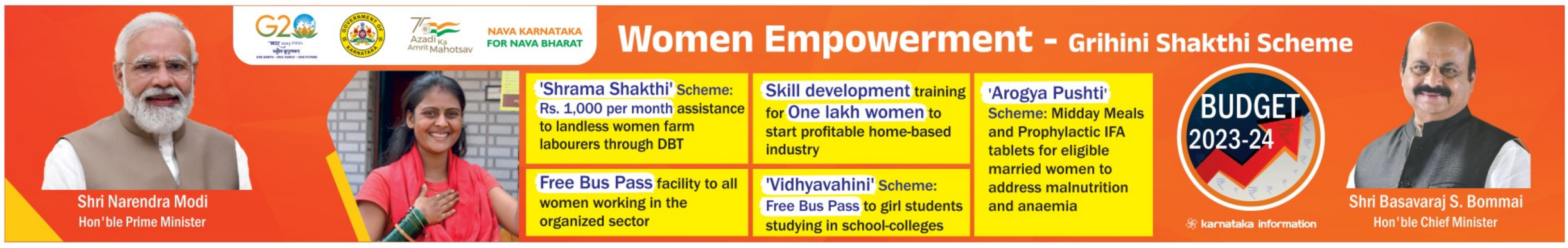

India suits up for deepest dive yet

NIOT is set to spearhead a 6,000-metre dive into the Indian Ocean, a mission to explore marine biodiversity and potential of the seabed

All eyes: MATSYA's journey will be filmed by 12 cameras, fitted along the submersible to capture a 360-degree view of the descent. R. RAVINDRAN

Jacob Koshy
CHENNAI

The influence of James Cameron, the Canadian-American filmmaker, whose cinema has frequently explored the mysteries of the deep ocean, looms large on scientists at the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) in Chennai.

"Have you seen the film [*Deepsea Challenge*]?" Ananda Ramadass asks this correspondent. The documentary charts Mr. Cameron's solitary, 10,000-metre journey down the Marianna Trench – the deepest point in earth's seabed – in 2012 aboard the Deep Sea Challenger, a submersible. "It is incredible," he adds.

Dr. Ramadass and his colleagues aspire to capture some of the aura of the ocean depths when India's indigenous submersible, MATSYA-6000, plunges into the bowels of the Indian Ocean, with a three-person crew onboard. At 6,000 metres, this will be shallower than Mr. Cameron's excursion but the deepest dive yet by Indians.

If India's mission – expected to take place in late 2024 or in 2025 – were to be successful, it would make it only one among six countries to have piloted a manned under-sea expedition beyond 5,000 metres.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 9

Punjab Police launch hunt for pro-Khalistan preacher; 78 arrested

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Amritpal Singh

In a major crackdown against pro-Khalistan propagator Amritpal Singh and his supporters, the Punjab Police on Saturday arrested 78 persons and launched a hunt for him. Several persons were also detained for questioning.

Internet services were suspended across the State till Sunday noon to prevent any incitement to violence.

The police seized eight rifles and a revolver. They have appealed for calm, cautioning people against spreading fake news or hate speech. The police said the State-wide cordon-and- search exercise was carried out against the elements linked to 'Waris Punjab De (WPD)', which is headed by Mr. Amritpal, in connection with multiple criminal cases.

The sequence of events unfolded in the afternoon when the police intercepted several activists of the WPD on the Shahkot-Malsian Road in Jalandhar and arrested seven persons.

Simultaneously, the others were picked up from different places. However, the police said, Mr. Amritpal and many of his associates were on the run and a massive manhunt had been launched for them.

Earlier in the day, some video clips about the police chase surfaced on social media.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 9

NEARBY

Expressway flooded; traffic disrupted

BENGALURU
Moderate showers on Friday evening led to flooding on the Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway just days after it was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The flooding lead to traffic snarls near Sangabasavana Doddi between Ramanagara and Bidadi, according to traffic police officials. NHAI officials claimed that mud dumped by a few villagers had blocked the drain, leading to flooding.
» Page 2

Siddaramaiah's dilemma over Kolar continues

BENGALURU
The Congress top brass' suggestion to Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah not to contest from Kolar constituency has apparently put the former Chief Minister in a Catch-22 situation on choosing the constituency for the upcoming Legislative Assembly elections. » Page 7

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Fury of the flames: Fire and Rescue Service personnel fought for days together to contain the blaze at the Brahmapuram solid-waste treatment plant in Kochi, Kerala, after tonnes and tonnes of plastic waste caught fire on March 2. After the fire was put out, smoke from the smouldering embers hung over the city for several days, polluting the environment and dealing a debilitating assault on the lungs.

When Kochi gasped

Plastic refuse at the coastal city's solid-waste treatment plant catches fire, choking its people with smoke and soot

Thulasi Kakkat
thulasidas.pv@thehindu.co.in

On the evening of March 2, heaps of plastic refuse stacked as high as multi-storey buildings at the solid-waste treatment plant at Brahmapuram in Kochi went up in flames. At least since 2019, the plant, run by the City Corporation, has been seeing such episodes of fire, raging for two or three days before being brought under control.

But this time, the fire turned intense and spread across a wider area by the day. As the few fire tenders and firefighters from the neighbourhood proved inadequate to battle the blaze, more men and equipment were rushed in from fire stations across Kerala. Even then, it was a daunting task, which the Corporation authorities underestimated initially.

Soon, the Ernakulam district administration sought the help of the Navy. The Southern Naval Command deployed an advanced light helicopter for aerial spraying of water on the active fire zone, which had by then expanded to nearly 40 acres of plastic mountains. A day later, the Indian Air Force joined the battle.

Even as intense firefighting was under way round-the-clock, toxic gas, carried mostly in the south-westerly direction first and then in the opposite direction as the wind changed course, left people gasping for breath.

Residents of many apartment complexes in the neighbourhood in the information technology hub of Thrikkakara left in droves complaining of breathlessness and cough.

Once the fire was doused, the firefighters were left with the arduous task of tossing the garbage using excavators and watering it down to contain the smoke. The smoke was controlled about a fortnight after the fire breakout.

– M.P. Praveen

Rising miasma: Smoke billowing from the smouldering garbage. Firefighters helped extinguish the fire, but they had a hard time containing the smoke.

Classifieds

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BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

DOCTOR

SUNNI, MUSLIM boy, completed MD/MS (clinical), 31 to 34 yrs, from TN belonging to a good family background to be a suitable match for our daughter, who's 30yrs, M.S. Ophthal, currently working. Contact : 9840895036

VANNIYAR DOCTOR girl, MD – Radiology. 30 yrs/170cm fair and rich. currently working in vellore. please send horoscope with profile to watsapp 9080900741

DOCTOR GIRL MD Anesthesiology 33/165 fair pretty cultured & well mannered Chennai based doctors family. Father Doctor Kerala Nair, Mother Tamil CSI. Doctor grooms MD MS MCh DM & Engineers from good family background prfd. 9840050381/ 9840985383

Hindu, Doctor Bride, 24 Yrs, 167cm, Sozhia Vellala, Punarpoosam, affluent family, finished PLAB, doing clinical attachment in UK, seeks Tall, tamil speaking, Doctor Groom, Studying / Working in UK, from similar background. Contact: 9443625539

LOOKING FOR Vanniyar boy (divorcee/widower with or without child) aged between 33–38 years Doctor/Engineer/Govt officials for Hindu Tamil Vanniyar 31 years Post Graduate Doctor (divorcee) with female child, only daughter of doctor parents.Parents of suitable person can send the horoscope with personal details.Mobile No. 9043370040

HINDU, TAMIL, 24/164, MBBS, Doctor in United Kingdom. Parents working professionals. Seeking Medical Doctor (25–29). T: 0044–7885978503.

DKV 27 / 155, Aswini, MBBS. Seeks Doctor Groom Only. Contact : 94429 24441 / 94431 51045

HINDU NADAR Doctor girl M.S. Punardham, 27/168 cm, seeks alliance from doctors only.
Contact : 08281795158,
email: aswinganesh14@gmail.com

ENGINEER

SUITABLE MATCH for Christian RC girl 29–5ft 3inch BE senior software engineer Bangalore expects suitable qualified value oriented groom preferably in the same field watsapp mob. 9845488686

HINDU PQM for Mum. Bengali girl 36y/5ft 3inch fair BE MBA w'kg MNC Pune. 8879050666, gcroy1948@gmail.com

MALAYALAM

RCSC GIRL Pursuing Ph.D 28/170cm, Project Scientist in Govt. Organisation at Ernakulam. Seeks suitable match. Mob: 9447066266

RE–MARRIAGENAIR GIRL (widow – issueless), 39 / 158, Uthradam, B.Tech, MNC Bangalore.Preferably from boys employed in/transferrable to Bangalore.9880273614 / 9633851831

EZHAVA GIRL, Fair, DOB 28/10/1994, 09.44 AM, doing MD (GYNEC), 2nd Year in Central Govt. Medical College, New Delhi. Proposals from Doctors / Professionals. Mob: 8281425422

KERALA SC girl 26/150, beautiful, wheatish, B.Tech from NIT and doing MS at USA seeks grooms with good educational qualification in the age group of 27-31. Caste and language no bar. Prefer alliances from USA. Contact 9588463579

HINDU – SC Girl: 36/157, Agri -Scientist - (CG-Pune) from south Kerala, seeks alliance from well educated professionals. Contact: 7972420241, 9447296008

TAMIL

TAMIL PROTESTANT Girl 37 / 5'3" Highly Presentable Post Graduate Nationalised Bank Executive Looking for Grooms Hailing from Decent Educated Family with Clean Habits and Well Placed. WhatsApp : 9840951311

RC NADAR Age:28 B.com 164cm Divorce, Groom wanted 1st/2nd Marriage ok Contact:Amaldhas Nadar 7200435192

CSI CHRISTIAN Girl 32 BE working in MNC, seeks BE/ME Bride Groom with Good Job. Contact: 90430 19165

THE HINDU
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TAMIL

CSI CHRISTIAN Nadar Girl Fair, Good Looking, 03–04–1986 born / 152cm / M.Sc M.Phil, working as Assistant Professor in a Reputed Women's College, Mount Road, Chennai. Both Parents Doctors (Private), Suitable Alliance, Employed / Settled in Chennai / With Clean Habits from Same Community. Contact: 9841182514

CHRISTIAN RC Pillai. Age 35, TL in Reputed MNC. Looking for equivalent Caste / Anglo. Ph: 9944170209

TAMIL CATHOLIC affluent Doctor parents are looking for a suitable groom working in India or Abroad for their fair, beautiful daughter 29/160, who is an accomplished Doctor, Ct: 9945530186

CSI NADAR Girl, MS Structural Engineering, 26/162cm, fair seeks bridegroom who is God fearing, well educated & settled, tall from an educated family. 94447 08541 / 98406 96274

AFFLUENT RC Christian family seeks Professionaly Qualified well settled Groom from respectable family for 32yrs Bride, MCA,Divorcee(issueless). 9443569083/ selvarajcecri@gmail.com

TAMIL MUSLIM Divorcee with 8 years boy, MD Dr., age 33, 163cm good looking bride seeking alliance Dr., Er., Professional Degree or business man only in chennai or abroad. Ct: H.Adambasha 98403 97405

MBBS DR. TN Govt Chennai 23–02–90 fair slim 165 cm magaram uthiradam 4 Hindu Naidu Elite Family seeks Dr, Class A officer, Business Groom. Any Hindu FC/BC. 9841743266.

HINDU VELLALA Pillai Fair 38/160cm MBA Finance Visagam working in QATAR Govt.co.willing to relocate to any place seeks qualified Professional groom CNB. Contact: rasnan1948@gmail.com/ 9884219229/ 9884607858

SC AD Hindu, BE MBA, SBI Manager, 34yrs, Mesham–Bharani, seeking suitable & qualified Groom. Ph–8056104103

HINDU TAMIL Chettiar, propertied, +2 girl (35) invites middle class family boy. Caste no bar. Contact : 7708043513.

HINDU SC AD 45 BE MBA Chennai 1st Mrg.Well Educated& Job 1st mrg Chennai Bridegroom Prefer CNB 9444736161

PARKAVAKULAM 27/165 Visagam-4 B.Tech Amazon Chennai seeks suitable employed groom 8610207506

HINDU DKV 36/162 B.Tech IT TCS Chennai 16 Lac p.a SWE seeks Bank, Central, State Govt. Employee. CT: 95668-84715, 94424-44715.

MUDALIAR /PILLAI 35/154 fair Hastham MCA Uppr Mid Cls Chennai Seeks Prof Quaf Workg in Corp Co 8220757159

PILLAI/ MUDALIAR B.E/ Kettai / MNC 25 Reputed Business family seeks alliance Ph : 98400 93322

TAMIL Agamudaiyar Devar fair 34yrs Divorced Govt.Doctor doing MS (Opthalmology), seeking good manner and decent Groom preferably PG Doctor Govt/ Pvt in Coimbatore, Karur, Tanjore and Chennai age between 36 to 40 years. CT:7010106249.

HINDU, SC Adi dravida, BE MBA, Female, Age 29, working in Accenture. Please Contact to:– (M) 9444991091.

RICH HINDU Nadar, 32 / MS., Famous Industrialist Daughter Seeks Rich Groom. Ct: 95141 73518

ELITE MUDALIYAR 23 / B.Tech, (Textiles Mills Owner) Rich Family Seeks Groom. Ct: 72000 67015

MUDALIAR THULUVA vellalar,U. Krithika B.Com,MBA,CA–working,Own house –5,Dob:28/10/98,6.17pm,Thiruvonam 1 Paadham,Magaram.7010973661,Ch–96.

SINGAPOREAN, SAIVA Pillai, CNB, Veg, Dentist, 25/158. Seeking a well–educated groom working in Singapore or willing to relocate. Contact WhatsApp : +65 91670073

MANNADIAR Girl 32/156 PhD Chemistry, Avitom, Asst.Professor, Gujarat, Vegetarian. 8281641881, 9429815230

TAMIL

SC AD Hindu unmarried Msc 37 Seeking Groom 8610410886.Caste No Bar. Brokers Excuse.

VANNIYAR TAMIL unmarried 57 years PG well settled seeks suitable groom between 60–70 years Ct: 6383024827

KONGU VELLALA Girl 26 doing CA (Final), Seeks CA pursuing completed Groom. CT:9363243711

WANTED VEG, non–smoker, Non – alcoholic Brahmin boy, Japanese knowing, based or inclined to locate to Japan for 28 year old girl, Srivatsa gotram, graduate, proficient in Japanese language and working in Tokyo Japan. WhatsApp to 9845319783 or email: swarna_mohan@Hotmail.com

VANNIYAR GIRL 28 years MBA well settled family seeking alliance from same background & community. Send horoscope & profile to whatsapp – 9840961251

HINDU NADAR 23,BE 165cm (Studied CBSE) Fair Seekes Educated Well Settled Family Ct: 9840366663 Chennai

HINDU MUDALIYAR Age 26, MBBS 165cm Rs.40000 PM Caste No Bar Ct: 8939691888 / 9710093999

HINDU NADAR Age 25, BE, 160cm Rs.90000 PM KA Raman Nadar Contact: 9380791999

SUITABLE MATCH for girl, B.E., MBA, Deputy Manager State Bank of India, Mumbai, Age 27, Devendra Kula Vellalar, Star: Sitthirai, Rasi: Kanni, Native: Tirunelveli, Mobile: 9566897347, 6379758442

HINDU ADIDRAVIDAR Kongu Parayar 32 BE, M.Tech, PhD Seeks educated Profl groom. CT:8760883559 / 8637663072

HINDU NADAR girl, MOB 8/1994, ME, Ht 168 cms, 65 kg, Wheatish brown, Thiruvathirai, Mithunam with Chevvai Ragu Kaethu, Upper middle class Seeks equally qualified boy, well settled. Ct: 96265 15511

SUITABLE MATCH for Fair looking, IT Professional, Yadava Girl–B.E./ MBA– Yadava/ Intercaste–Age:30–31yrs– Vegetarian preferred. 9884789389

HINDU 25/160/MS, CS, USA, working for a reputed IT MNC in USA seeks suitable groom, preferably working in USA. Caste No bar. Ct: 9902806056

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VANNIYAR KUMBAM sadhayam 27 years MA fair, Slim Affluent family Chennai seeking groom from same caste, status.whatsapp 9940344331

MUDALIAR,30/180,HANDSOME,BE,MBA, SWE,HCL,CHENNAI,1000000.PA,AFFLUENT Family, CNB, 7299576644,7299576666

HINDU MUDALIAR Super Speciality Doctor 34 seeks Doctor / Industrialist groom between 34 & 37. Cast no bar. Ct: 9884202884

HINDU NADAR Divorced 32yr 1990 M.E IT. 70000 per month. Divorced Groom from same Caste & Good Family & Background. Only from Tamil Nadu / working in Bangalore also. 9445614753

HINDU 28, M.Com., PGDCA, Divorcee,working in MNC, Chennai, Caste no bar, seeks suitable Groom. Ct: 97866 16191, 94870 74569.

HINDU SC AD 36yrs 161cm BE MBA, Manager(HR) in Coal India Ltd @Nagpur, Well settled,caste No Bar, Seeks Qualify Groom, 8680095094/ 8248498021

26 YRS, Unmarried, Devendra Kula Vellalar, 5'6", MBA, Management professional. Lives in Chennai. Father is retired–Highly placed professional. Mother is a Homemaker. Looking for well educated and well settled match from Same community 7448745888

Hindu AD/SC, 25/165, Graduate, Fair, Good looking,Classical Dancer Sathya Sai Baba Devotee,Teacher-Pvt School, seeks suitable Groom Fr good family background, pref. Sri Sathya Sai Baba Devotee.Ct:9445116994 / 9445024377

TAMIL

TAMIL IYER Vadamal Gowthama Magam 27 year old MCA Private Company preferably settled in Bangalore. Ct 9444852337. Email: thyshri@gmail.com

GROOM WANTED
Fair, Smart, Pretty Girl Software Analyst in MNC. 14 L Per Annum, BE-ECE, 29/5.6'. Intercaste Hindu Parents (Naidu & Vishwakarma) Seeks Employed Hindu Groom
Ct: 94444 02824

MUSLIM BRIDEGROOM WANTED
MUSLIM innocent Divorcee, No child, PG Dr. Bride, Fair Age 31, 160cm, practicing in Australia seeking alliance Dr., Er., any professional Degree willing to settled in Australia.
Contact: H.Adambasha
98403 97405

BRIDES WANTED

BUSINESS

HONEST, SIMPLE, Compassionate, Wheatish IIM Alumni, Engineer, Masters in political leadership, 180 cm/36 Years; Divorced (issueless) Businessperson, Non–smoker/non–drinker; looking for SHE (Simple, Honest & Empathetic) Lady, Caste/Religion/Profession–No Bar, Whatsapp profile 9998319854

COSMOPOLITAN

MD DOCTOR(DNB–GASTRO, hindu, tamil, kongu vellalar, Dec 91, 6'1, v.fair, hastham) seeks a noble, tall, v.fair, metro–educated, MD–MS or highly qualified bride. Parents: 9342529547 / 9072118800

BRIDE FOR our son, Mtech, MS, engineer Sweden, 1986, Uthiradam, Mudaliyar, 180/75. Contact:– 9884187197.

DIVORCEE

42, GENERAL Manager @HCL, 2L PM Own House/Property Divorce with Zero Financial Commitments from Previous Marriage seeks Suitable Bride 1st&2ndmarriage ok(no child) 9884222271

MALAYALAM

MALAYALI EZHAVA Boy, 34 years/ 165 Cms, MDS, Settled in Tamil Nadu. Looking for MBBS / BDS Ezhava girl. Contact: 95002 34204 / 72004 72221.

TAMIL

CHRISTIAN, 41/170, B.E. Software Engineer, Chennai, Never married, seeks bride from elite family, caste no–bar, CT– 9500188067

CHRISTIAN NADAR, 34yrs/178cms, MBBS with dip in Cardiology Private Doctor good looking lives in Nagercoil, Innocent Divorcee seeks same caste qualified Bride/ Divorcee above 28yrs. Ct: 90039 83230.

HINDU NADAR, 34, Avittam, Magaram, B.Tech, SWE, MNC Bangalore, 36LPA, WFH, Educated family from Madurai seeks suitable Bride. Ct:94438 60983, 94429 84922.

HINDU, MUDALIYAR, 39, Divorced, USA Citizen, Seeking Bride (Any Degree) with NO child, Caste No Bar. CT: 9994328550/9790515437

IYER, GARGAYA, Brahacharanam, Avittam, Widower 43/156 family concern, Own House, 11 yrs Child Ct: 9940469993 / sstyagarajan@gmail.com

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CHETTIAR, 26, 180 cms, Software Professional, BE & MS. Lives in Chennai. Father is an affluent Businessman with a good net worth. Looking for an amiable match. Contact: 6366448343

GOUNDER, 34, 175 cms, Sr Manager, MBA. Lives in Delhi. Father is an affluent Businessman with a good net worth. Looking for an affable match from any similar community. Contact: 6366448344

YADAV, 27, 178 cms, Medical Professional, MBBS. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Central Govt Employee. Looking for a suitable match from same community. Contact: 6366448344

VISHWAKARMA, 33, 170 cms, Music Composer, BA. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Working Professional. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

ELITE GROOMS WANTED

MUDALIYAR, 26, 157 cms, Financial Analyst, Masters. Lives in Bangalore. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

VANNIA KULA KSHATRIYA, 26, 165 cms, Medical Professional, MD. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a compatible match from any similar community. Contact: 6366448344

VANNAR, 25, 160 cms, Doctor, MBBS. Lives in Coimbatore. Father is an Executive Engineer. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a suitable match. Contact: 6366448343

LINGAYATH, 27, 173 cms, Post Graduate, from a Bangalore based high profile family with very good net worth. Looking for an amiable match from the same community in Bangalore. Contact: 6366448346

CHRISTIAN CSI, 24, 160 cms, Medical Professional, Pursuing MD. Lives in Chennai. Parents are Working Professionals. Family is financially well off. Looking for a suitable match from any community. Contact: 6366448344

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TAMIL

Hindu Adidravida Hastham 27/154cm B.E MNC, 16L PA seeks suitable Allian ce from Govt, PSU, IT. Ct: 9444155781

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TELUGU

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GROOM WANTED
Naidu, 28yrs / 5'4"/ Hastham, M.B.B.S (Doing P.G), Chennai from Educated, Cultured and Affluent Family Seeking Groom (Age 29 to 33 yrs) (Tee-Totaler) From Well Educated, Cultured and Decent Family.
Ct:98848 76246

DIVORCEE

BENGALURU BASED, Software Professional, 6 ft / 1971 born – fair, Tamil, Hindu, Yadava – Male (divorced) seeks proposals from suitable, educated Hindu women (preferably) from Bengaluru. Caste no bar. Please email shankris2022@gmail.com / call +91 90085 42820 with details.

HINDU/ SC/ AD, (Tamil), BE ME, Chief Manager, PSU Bank, 34 Tall and good looking seeks alliance for remarriage from unmarried or divorced bride. Ph: 98400 96246 / 98408 66982

DOCTOR

HINDU, DOCTOR MS, Reddy 32Yrs/ 165cm Fair, Affluent and Currently Settled in Chennai. Seeks Groom from Similar Background. Any Profession / Business Contact: 89256 40111

HINDI

1985/175CM. IT. 40 Lakhs PA. Chennai. Father Doctor. Seeks well educated bride. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

MALAYALAM

HINDU EZHAVA, 32/178, Chothi, B.Tech.,MBA IIM, MS USA, Supplychain, Consultant, seeks bride India / Abroad. Mobile: 9446533808, E-mail: vijayan.bhaskaran64@gmail.com

TAMIL

DKV 27/175 handsome Law graduate, working, Chennai Father Govt high official, Mother Govt Doctor seeks professional bride from well educated family. Caste no bar. 9884466718

AUG 1984 Born Advocate M.Sc & BA BL Seeks Graduate Bride Veg Only Father Industrialist Ct:7448316569

TAMIL YADAVAR 30 yrs 174, Pvt CONCERN Chennai Sal 50K Native Ranipet. Seeks Suitable Bride Ct: 9940567735

A WELL settled Healthy Hindu ,57 Separated Seeks Elite Independent Lady as life partner & Soulmate Caste Nobar 7397087032 mducbe18@gmail.com

MUDALIYAR 30YRS MS/Thiruvonam, Magara Rasi working in US in IT Sector Well to Do Family with his Assests Worth in Crores.Seeks Bride 9840456644(only Whats App call) 9840636662

HINDU, BALIJA Age 46/166, B.sc Business / 25k Seeks Suitable Bride below 37. Caste No bar. Ct: 9444107875

COIMBATORE HINDU Valluvan 26 Sathayam JSW Cements Salem Plant Engineer Parents Govt Staff Only Son Clean habits Need Nivarthiyana Sevvai thosham bride 9442294411 (Night 7-9) Brokers pls excuse

TELUGU

GAVARA NAIDU 29/165 B.E(EEE) MBA.Seeks educated groom with good Job,Salary.9600626739 / 8344969541

NAIDU 27/155/FAIR CA 18L PA Veg Godfearing Seeks Educated Veg boy from DecentFamily Ct:9444031110 Chennai

URDU

MUSLIM SYED 23/165, M.Com Good looking girl. Seeks Suitable Groom. Contact : 94429 10133

SMU PARENTS Coimbatore based invite alliance for their daughter 24/164, BE working in MNC at Chennai. Ct: 9842276622

URDU

SUNNI MUSLIM parents seek Allopathic Doctor or Non IT Engineer (Oil/ Gas / Petrochem/MNC Tamilnadu or Abroad) for daughter 30 Yrs Slim, Fair, Smart MBBS.M.S., Mobile:8056198771

CHENNAI ORIGIN, Sunni Muslim, Urdu speaking, parents of Canada based , Middle East born Girl 20 years, seek groom settled in Canada/USA. What's app: 8925764530.

SMU GIRL 25 / 165 well–to–do family, B.Design,Fair,Slim working seeks well Educated Groom working in US/ UK/ Canada/ Australia Ct.9841106166

TAMIL

GROOM WANTED
Vellore based Lady Doctor, 30 years, Fair, MBBS, PG Dip HM, employed as Resident Doctor in a reputed hospital in Vellore. Father is an Engineer, Family is affluent. Looking for compatible match from Hindu, Christian RC, Fair, Handsome, Vellalar, Pillai, Mudaliyar, Chettiyar, CNB. Preferably IAS, IFS or Highly qualified professionals.
Contact Whatsapp 9952370373
effwillarr@protonmail.com

TAMIL

ALLIANCE INVITED from a well–settled Hindu family for our SON 36/175cms,Good Looking, B.E.,M.S (UK) , Successfully running own business in Trichy & Coimbatore from affluent family (Caste no bar, Prefer Pet Lovers). Contact: 8148796783

KONGU VELLALA Gounder 49yrs Divorcee 12-15 LPA, no expectations, Seeks Educated Bride. Ct:9865679006

MUDALIAR/NAIDU 27/173 Msc Fin Doha Seeks Educated Bride from a rich family. CNB Geetham 9884858014

CASTE NO BAR 38/168 PILLAI M.Tech SWE MNC Chennai 18L Aswini seeks bride 9841151575 write2vpt@gmail.com

CASTE NO Bar Hindu Sourashtra, BC 37 MBA Pvt Manager 1.15L Pm, Chennai. Suitable Bride Wanted 9381725577

CASTE NO BAR 1980 Bank Manager, Star: Bharani/Mesham Chennai–59. Seeks Bride. Cont – 9566209636/22394878

MUDALIAR, 19–10–1989/6'2", Thiruvadirai,Mithunam, BE, MBA, IT sector,11 LPA, Che, Sub caste: No bar, seeks a good looking, grad, employed girl btw 27–30 yr from a good family, 8056119148.

HINDU Parayar 33 BE Senior Piping Engineer, 12Lak PA, require Educated Girl from decent family. ct:9600577589

PROFESSOR, GOVT.COLLEGE, 43yrs/ 167cm, Sportsman seeks Professor/ Govt job/ Well Settled Bride Any caste & religion. Ct: 8870417228

VANNIYAKULA KSHATRIYA 31/178, BE, Fair, Infosys, Chennai, 23LPA, seeks suitable bride. 9444020968.

GAVARA NAIDU, 39/180, Uthiradam, Maharam, B.E.,M.S(Eng) Maintenance Eng, MNC chennai, 15L PA, first marriage seeks Bride, Ct: 9487272897

BE, MS PhD (IITM), Star-Swathi, 29 Yrs, Fair, 174cm, MNC B'lore, seeks B'ful PQB, Pillai/Mudaliar, Contact-9840161742

HINDU SC Govt Doctor MBBS 43Yrs 1st Marriage Seeks Bride Doctor, Suitable Govt Official CNB 9382379832

MUDALIAR 29/175 MD Pediatrician having own Hospital seeks bride MD/MS Doctor only. Ct: 8870616802/ 8310519896

VANNIAR 31/178, Rich Fair Divorcee, Job @ Swiss Infosys 8Lac per month,Seeks Bride Expectation Never married, CNB Ct: 9443034808/ 9597405082

FC/BC INTERCASTE 1985 thiruvathirai well qfd & well placed @ chennai CNB 86676 05361

MD DOCTOR 39/180, Reddiyar. Mutual divorcee. Caste no bar. Ph 8124570336

IIM MBA Agamudayar, Mukkulathor, 97born/180cm,16L pa,Punarpoosam 2 seeks same caste Bride. 9842103232

SM4 BE/ MS IITM Boy 31/5'5" PhD Wkg in Australia 75 LPA, Star Jyeshta'3, Hindu-Mudaliyar/ BC/MBC caste no bar. Ct: 9486088958/ 9384080919

BTECH, BITSPILANI 6'1 Mudaliar born in Nov 91 Wkg at Bengalore Product Manager Sal 40 lacs seeks Bride 5'4 Btech,CA Doctor. - Ct: 7382620365

HINDU YADAVA, Handsome, clean habits 26 /179 B.Tech working in MNC, 30 LPA, very short lived first marriage only 6 months. Father PSU officer. CNB. 7904627469

TAMIL HINDU BOY (BC). MBA. Age – 39. 1st Marriage. Very Honest & Faithful boy. Good beauty I can assure you that I have no bad habits. Full consent to be a GOOD HOUSE GROOM and a GOOD SON in a GIRL HOUSE. I will take care of my future wife like my mother. 2nd marriage is Accepted. (Caste & Religion no bar). Please Avoid brokers. Call: 91235 – 89257

60, SIMPLE, Healthy, Pretty, Decent. Seeking Good Looking Issueless Bride Caste No Bar. Ct: 7604841705

REDDIYAR (CNB) 31, Moolam, MBA Deloitte, rich – looking from Educated & Respectable Family.Ct. 9840405153

HINDU NADAR (Caste No Bar), 38/185, M.Tech (IIT Madras), Principal Engineer (Chip Design) in an MNC in Bangalore, eggetarian, seeks educated, never married, suitable bride (30–35 yrs). Veg/ eggetarians preferred. Ct: 9840117920.

GROOM 34,BE, Good Family & Settled, Working in USA.Seeking Hindu Bride. Caste,Region & Age No Bar. Divorcee Bride also with/without child. email: vedha.880827@gmail.com; C9042021137

MUDALIAR,30/180,HANDSOME,BE,MBA, SWE,HCL,CHENNAI,1000000.PA,AFFLUENT Family, CNB, 7299576644,7299576666

VISWAKARMA GROOM,SW Eng Revathi/ ME(Ph.d)31/167 /Fair/RS.6 L PA. Seeks Suitable Bride 9444247481, 8428432112

TAMIL

CASTE NO Bar 47 years Boy Good Character Seeking Bride Wanted # 99400 75698

TAMIL VANNIYASKULA Kshatriya 35/180 M.S (UK) Engineering design seeking bride same community contact No. 9486291986 / 9442910057

MUDALIAR, 29, BE, MBA, 176 cm, 28 Lacs P.A, Well Settled Family Seeks Bride CNB Ct. 8778514465/ 7200866346

AGE 46, DME, Hindu Yadhavar, Business, First Marriage, Looking for Degree Completed Bride. Ct: 9952065594

PVT COLLEGE Professor 53/Divorcee Vellalar Seeks Widows Age45–50, Teachers or Unemployee, True Life Partner or Life Companion Ct:8148779326

IYER BRAHACHARANAM Moolam Netrakashyapam Nov 1973 Dipl. Pvt Org 5 L PA Seeks Any Girl 9840023524

IYER, 41 Years, Self Employed Chartered Accountant in Erode. Having own house and earns 25LPA. Right leg slightly short. He can walk and drive vehicle normally. Need Suitable Bride. Call 9994934568

IYER BRAHCHARANAM / Koundinyam / Avitam 1988 B.Com / MBA working pvt firm getting 4.5 LPA. Seeks working bride. 94431 32445.

IYENGAR THENKALAI Vishwamitra gothram, unmarried, 46 years educated wellsettled family , Bank employee, needed unmarried any Brahmin bride, Age above 35 years educated bride with good family background, No expectation Simple marriage. Send horoscope & profile to whatsapp – 9884160290 / 9962063836

IYENGAR VADAKALAI 34/167 Pooratathi Naithruba Kashyabam. MS BITS PILANI, MNC 2.5L Pm, Own House Coimbatore. Seeks Graduate Girl, Kalai & Subsects no bar. CT: 97890 14553, 80567 88367.

WANTED ANY Brahmin Girl for Boy M.K Srinivasakumar Age 44, 2nd Marriage No Kids, Own House Ambattur, Chennai. Subsect/ Language No Bar. Cell: 9710925815 or 9884995250

IYER KETTAI 39 BE LLB, 18L/pa own house, company all veg ok. divorcee excuse CNB. 9500456893/ 6369157055

DIP, COMP. Science, Animation, Own Business, 29yrs Brahmin, Subsect No bar, No Expectation. Ct: 94443 81928, 94454 25494.

VADAKALAI Iyengar Boy, Punarpoosam 5'ft 6 Inch, Bharatwaja Gothram, 1979, never married, MNC, Chennai, M.S. I.T, 24 Lacs pa seeks never married Brahmin Brides. Cont with BPH Whats App 7299704899 / 9443092289

SEEKING SIMPLE, Clean Habits,Vegetarian Bride willing to be Homemaker for our Son Ms(CS) USA,28yrs/178cms,Iyer,Vegetarian & Clean Habits.Financial Status of the Bride does not matter.Ct. WhatsApp:+1 732 372–8410

BRIDE WANTED
Tamil Muslim - 28yrs/175cm handsome, BE - MS (USA), SW Engr in USA from Well educated, moderately religious family - Seeks fair, tall TM Engr bride age 23-26 yrs, working / studying in USA or eligible to relocate for a job in USA. Kindly share bio-data with photos to WhatsApp.
Ct: 9444149649
nasarqmc@gmail.com

BRIDE WANTED
Kongu Vellala Gounder
Groom in Coimbatore, Very fair, Industrialist (Well reputed), Very Rich, Financially very strong with good net worth requires bride from same community, must be good looking, energetic, etc, please send photos, horoscope, biodata to the following
Email / Whatsapp no
smgi2010@gmail.com
99434 20333

TAMIL IYER Vadama Sankruti Anusham 32yrs /163 / 65, MBA Sr Manager Leading Pvt Bank Mumbai Looking for decently Educated Tamil Brahmin girl. Contact: 93246 94206 / 99875 28294. Email: chiraman@rediffmail.com

CASTE NO BAR, Hindu Yadava. 31/180, M.E, Employed in Multinational Company at Chennai, seeks suitable professionally qualified bride with good family background Ct: 94444 49696.

MUDALIAR 56/160, M.A, Central Govt Employee, 90K pm. Never Married, seeks bride. CNB. Cont: 87786 30870.

HINDU SC Govt. Doctor, 47yrs, Unmarried Seeks Bride Equal Qualification Ct: 86680 90209 / 98403 74285.

TAMIL

31 / 164cm ME. Assistant Professor Chennai Divorcee seeks suitable Bride Unmarried/ Divorcee- No Issue. Naidu/ Mudaliar/ Pillai/ Chettiar Preferred. Contact: 94430 52596 / 94456 89306

SAIVA PILLAI, MSC MBA 4Lakhs/ monthly, Company Owner 15 Crores property, only son 173cm Visagam, 46yr unmarried cnb. 98415 53677 (W)

HINDU/ SC/ AD, (Tamil), BE ME, Chief Manager, PSU Bank, 34 Tall and good looking seeks alliance for remarriage from unmarried or divorced bride. Ph: 98400 96246 / 98408 66982

TELUGU

32YRS BCOM /MBA, Senior Analyst@Allsec Technology Chennai Seeks Bride from Balija Naidu Family 9884222271

✔ **KAMMA 28** years very affluent, Coimbatore based, owning many industries, traditional family. Seeks beautiful girl, below 28 years traditional affluent family willing to settle in Coimbatore 7305010105

ELITE NAIDU FAMILY in Chennai, Seeks Aliance for their only Son, 5.8',Very Fair, MBA, Born 1999, Meenam, Uthiratathi. Seeks Aliance in same Caste. Ct: 0–98410 71701

TELAGA KAPA, 43/173 . First Marriage Well settled B.Tech, AMIE, / 1 lakh p.m working in Visakhapatnam seeks good looking educated girl. Send photo & details. Whatsup 9789904155

VIP NAIDU, 27 / B.E.,M.S, Own Famous Engg Colleges & Steel TMT Rod Mfg Factory Seeks Bride. 7200259760

BALIJA NAIDU, 28/182 Poosam, Engr, Web Designer, 50K seeks educated bride Subcaste no bar. CT:96003 85286

KAMMAVAR NAIDU 30, 174 cm Pooram–Simmam M.S (Engg) working in USA seeks bride from same community working/studying in USA, CT. 9442026567 or kvr1956@gmail.com

HINDU, REDDY, 38/191, issueless divorcee, MDS, having own clinic in Chennai, makara rasi, own house, seeks tall issueless divorcee or widow preferably doctor or engineer CNB ct:9003060330.

TELUGU BRAHMIN Vegetarian, Gouthama, Rohini, 26 yrs, 168 cms, B. Tech (Genetic engineering), M.Sc. Genomic Medicine (London, UK) , Settled in Chennai, Affluent business family. Seeks Brahmin Vegetarian girl, professional, aged below 25 yrs. WhatsApp Parent: 93422 68247

BALIJA NAIDU 34yrs 175cm BE MBA. Architect and Interior designer 18L PA. Well settled family in chennai Divorced with in two months Caste no Bar 9884065632 / 9176667276.

Caste No Bar, Yadav, divorce, 43Y, 178, MBBS-MS Doctor, 50L P A, HYD. Well settled Groom seeks a suitable Doctor/ Engineer/ Graduate Bride. Email: drnani2023@gmail.com, Ph: 9440124742.

TELUGU BRAHMIN boy (35) fair, 5'6" Govt.Bank, B'lore, seeks alliance from Brahmin,veg Girls. 9003070946.

BRIDE WANTED
Kamma Naidu 42, ME 5.6', Anusham / Viruchigam from Cultured and Traditional Family Heading Many Educational Institutions Divorcee, No Issues. Seeking Suitable and Educated Bride.
No Other Expectations.
94450 21512

BRIDE WANTED
A well settled Affluent Business Family, seeks alliance for their son, 36, Kamma, Tall, Fair, Educated, very short-term genuine divorcee, engaged in Business. Bride should be Educated & Good Looking, from respectable family.
80159 10457

URDU

MUSLIM, BE, 46, TNEB Engineer, Divorcee, NO Children. Need Graduate, Unmarried Girl Age 33–40. 9445450668

WEDDING ARRANGEMENTS

ALL CASTE All Religion, Doctors. Tamilaga Doctors Matrimony 7397776597

INBRIEF

International conference held at Chanakya University

Chanakya University, Bengaluru, in association with Central Sanskrit University, Ministry of Education, Indian Knowledge Systems Division, and The Art of Living organised an international conference on Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) recently. Chief guest NAAC chairman Anil Sahasrabudhe said 'Conferences and symposiums are important because we have to validate and accredit the ancient knowledge that prevailed in India. The ancient knowledge of mathematics, chemistry, and astronomy are still relevant. All claims have to be investigated scientifically and communicated to generations." Yashwantha Dongre, V-C, Chanakya University, Ganti Surayanaraya Murthy, Director, IKS Division, GoI, and H.S. Ashok, Dean, Research (I/c), Chanakya University, were present.

Flagship expert lecture series held at Reva University

REVA University recently organised a one-day flagship expert lecture series event 'Anaagata 2023' at its campus. The National Association of Students of Architecture lecture series was organised for students of architecture from universities and colleges across India. The event was inaugurated by Habeeb Khan, president, Council of Architecture. Mr. Habeeb briefed on the origin and the function of the Council of Architecture. Leena Kumar, Jt Honorary Secretary, IIA, guest of honour, said the best time in a person's life is when they are students.

SBI to donate ₹24 crore to IISc under CSR

State Bank of India (SBI), under its Corporate Social Responsibility activity, will donate ₹24 crore to Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, for construction of multi-speciality hospital (orthopaedics wing). The project, which will be completed by 2025, will be named Bagchi-Parthasarathy Hospital. The MoU was signed between SBI and IISc recently. The event was graced by Director of IISc, G. Rangarajan, Registrar Capt. Sridhar Warrier, Chief GM of SBI Nand Kishore, GM (Network-II) Sandeep Bhatnagar, Deputy GM and Circle Development Officer, Alok Kumar Dwivedi, Deputy GM (B&O), Bengaluru North, Murali Krishna MVR.

Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway flooded; traffic disrupted

Moderate showers lead to inundation of the expressway just days after it was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Moderate showers on Friday evening led to flooding on the newly opened Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway just days after it was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The expressway witnessed inundation on Saturday morning leading to traffic snarls near Sangabasavana Doddi between Ramanagara, and Bidadi, according to traffic police officials.

Manoj Kumar, a resident of Basavanagudi, who took the road on Saturday morning to go to Mysuru, said: "If this is the quality of work by the government, why do they collect a hefty toll? The road has multiple issues which should be identified and resolved soon."

A view of the flooded Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway on Saturday.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

NHAI's claim

Meanwhile, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) officials claimed that mud put up by a few villagers had blocked the drain. NHAI project director B.T. Sridhar said: "We have built drains along the stretch to flow the rainwater. However, a few villagers had blocked the drain by putting mud, which led to waterlogging on roads. We have immediately started work to clean the mud and remove the blockage in drains."

This is not the first time the expressway has been flooded. In August 2022, various stretches on the expressway were inundated, and vehicles stuck for hours. Again in October, after rain, parts of the expressway were flooded.

The Opposition parties were quick to react. Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah said: "The government has opened the expressway for election purposes without completing 20% of work. This road project was approved by the Congress government."

Congress leader Priyank Kharge alleged that Mr. Modi had not even checked the road before inauguration. "Like I said before, he is inaugurating works that are incomplete. The BJP thinks people of Karnataka are fools?"

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai promised that NHAI will repair the stretch. "It is a minor issue due to rain, so I have asked NHAI to repair it soon," he told reporters in Chamarajanagar. Mr. Modi on March 12 inaugurated the 118 km-long 10-lane expressway between Bengaluru and Mysuru. The expressway reduces travel time between Bengaluru and Mysuru from three hours to what the government claims 75 minutes.

Murder case cracked after eight years; woman held for killing brother with help of partner

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Jigani police on Friday cracked an eight-year-old murder case and arrested a 31-year-old woman, who, along with her live-in partner, allegedly murdered her younger brother for objecting to their relationship and chopped the body parts and disposed it in a travel bag in different parts on the outskirts of the city in July 2015.

The accused had soon after vacated the rented house and fled to different cities before settling down in Nashik. The police closed the case as undetected and reopened it recently after they got a hunch about the couple's activities.

Based on a tip-off, a police team traced the couple and arrested them. They have been identified as Bhagyashri Siddappa Pujari, 31, a resident of Sindagi taluk in Vijayapura who had relocated to Nashik and worked in a pharma company, and her friend Suputra Shankarappa Talawar, 32, who later married Bhagyashri.

According to the police, Bhagyashri and her brother Ningaraju Siddappa Pujari had come to Bengaluru, was working in a factory in Jigani and stayed in a rented house in Vaderamanchanahalli. Bhagyashri had an affair with Suputra, who was already married. Ningaraju objected to it. Bhagyashri and Suputra hatched the plan and killed Ningaraju.

The murder came to light when the Jigani police found the bag containing human body parts at a KIADB vacant site in Jigani. The police found a doctor's prescription, which led to the house of the accused. Based on information from neighbours, the police went to the factory where the accused were working and obtained their contact details. They managed to contact the family members of the deceased and got the body identified.

Failing to locate the accused, the police filed a closure report before the court but kept a tab on the accused.

While following old cases, the police stumbled upon a piece of information about Suputra working in a factory in Nashik and a team rushed there. But Suputra by then had changed jobs.

The police again followed the trail and tracked down Bhagyashri to a pharma company where she was working and later arrested Suputra.

The duo confessed to the crime and were charged with the murder and taken into custody.

Clash at BGS ground: 3 FIRs filed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Two groups belonging to different political parties clashed and pelted stones at each other over the issue of putting up banners for an event, scheduled on Sunday, at BGS ground at Govindarajanagar on Friday.

The groups, allegedly belonging to the Congress and the BJP, attacked each other before the police resorted to caning to disperse them. The police personnel who were deployed at the ground for security had initially tried to pacify the crowd.

As per information available, a women's self-help group event backed by a few local Congress workers was scheduled to happen on Sunday at the ground and they had taken permission from the authorities. However, on Friday, a group belonging to the BJP started to put up banners for another event.

Three policemen, who were on duty, sustained injuries in the melee. The police have taken the complaint and counter-complaint in the case and are investigating. Three FIRs have been booked.

Youth caught smoking on domestic flight

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kempegowda International Airport police on Friday arrested a 20-year-old youth who was allegedly caught smoking in the washroom on an Indigo Guwahati-Bengaluru flight.

The accused has been identified as Seheri Coudari from Assam. The incident came to light when passengers felt the odour of smoke and alerted the cabin crew. He was handed over to the airport security charging him as an indisciplined passenger.

Timings
BENGALURU

SUNDAY, MAR. 19	
RISE 06:25	SET 18:30
RISE 04:30	SET 16:21
MONDAY, MAR. 20	
RISE 06:24	SET 18:30
RISE 05:19	SET 17:21
TUESDAY, MAR. 21	
RISE 06:23	SET 18:30
RISE 06:05	SET 18:18

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	23
Mysuru	34	20
Bengaluru	32	20

Bengaluru Today
32°C Morning will be slight cool with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm. Chances of light to moderate rain or thundershower at some

Bengaluru Tomorrow
33°C The day will be warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower is likely to occur at few places.

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THE HINDU
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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the General Public that my client **Smt. Darshana Kumari S,** W/o. late Sri. Sri.D.S. Sudesh Kumar, residing at No.35, Mountain Street, 1st Block, Jayanagar East, Bengaluru - 560011, has either lost or misplaced the original (1) Sale Deed dt:27/04/2002, registered as Doc.No.1134/2002-03, Book-I, Volume 520, at Pages 51 to 53 in the Office of Addl. District Sub-Registrar, Bengaluru District executed by Bangalore Development Authority and Possession Certificate, Khatha Certificate in respect of property bearing Site No.931, situated at Banashankari 6th Stage, 10th Phase, Bengaluru ad measuring East to West 15 Meter and North to South 24 Meters, in all measuring 360 Square Meters. In this regard a Police complaint is lodged before Bengaluru City Police Unit vide Lost Report No.050342, dt:16/03/2023. Public are hereby notified that if any one finds the original of the said documents, they may deliver the same to the undersigned or to my aforesaid client Smt. Darshana Kumari S, immediately. If anyone deals with the original of the aforesaid documents or makes any claim on the said property on the basis of said documents other than Smt. Darshana Kumari S, W/o. late Sri. Sri.D.S. Sudesh Kumar, he/she/they will not derive any right and such transaction will not bind my client.

VASANT H VAIDYA
Advocate
No.141/1, 3rd Floor, I Block Rajajinagar,
Dr. Rajkumar Road, Bengaluru-10
Phone:9986028063
Mail:vhvaidya@gmail.com

RURAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION DIVISION, CHIKMAGALUR.

Tender Notice No.: 24/2022-23 **Date: 14.03.2023**

Notice Inviting Tender

Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Chikkamagalur invites Tender through e-procurement related to 131 (including Package) works of Tarikere and Chikkamagaluru Taluks of Chikkamagaluru District. Min. Amount is Rs. 8.12 lakhs and Max. Amount is Rs. 80.28 lakhs. Details regarding undertaking or having implemented work as per Standard Tender Document KW-3&4 should be attached. Contract can be awarded to contractors only if they have the minimum qualifications as mentioned in Act 1.Tender for works should be submitted through e-procurement from 14.03.2023 to 27.03.2023 up to 5.30 PM. Tender will be opened on 28.03.2023 at 5.31 PM. In case this day is a holiday the next day will be considered. Notification can be read on www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in For further details the case worker can be contacted during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Chikkamagalur

DIPR/ckm/No.314/mca/22-23/2172

RURAL DRINKING WATER & SANITATION DEPARMENT
Office of The Executive Engineer,
R.D.W & S, Division, Haveri

Sl.No.RDW&SD/Haveri/PB-1/Tender:45/2022-23/2642 Date : 18-03-2023.

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

1) Request of Blank Tender Documents and Receipt of completed Technical & Financial Bid through e-procurement from **:27-03-2023 at: 17:30** hours, **2)** Date of Technical Bid Opening (If possible): **28-03-2023 @ 17:31** hours, **3)** Date of Financial Bid Opening (If possible): **29-03-2023 @ 10:00** hours
Inviting tenders of Water Supply works of Hirekerur Taluk under NRDWP JJM scheme.
Indent No :- (1) 61293
The blank tender documents can be downloaded through website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in from the date of hosting the tender.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
R.D.W&S Division,Haveri

DIPR/HAVERI/666/2022-23/Deshpandepublicity

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture,
BBMP, Rajarajeshwarinagara Zone, Bengaluru - 560 091.
No:BBMP/SADH/RRN/TEN/PR/238/2022-23 Dated:18.03.2023

LETTER OF INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover System)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Rajarajesh-warinagara Zone, BBMP) (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites Tenders in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person /Agencies/Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour Department for Maintenance of Parks.

Sl No	Name of the Works/Category	Estimate Cost	EMD
1	Upgradation and landscape development works at Balaji layout part-1 and 2 in Ward No-198 Hemmigepura (Part-2) (Scheduled Tribes)	20,00,000/-	25,000/-
2	Upgradation and landscape development work at BCMC layout park in Ward No-198 Hemmigepura part-1 (Scheduled Caste)	20,00,000/-	25,000/-
3	Upgradation and landscape development works at concord Layout and Nanda deepa layout park Part-2 in Ward No-198 Hemmigepura (Scheduled Caste)	20,00,000/-	25,000/-
4	Upgradation and landscape development works at Judicial Layout park part-1 in Ward No-198 Hemmigepura (Scheduled Caste)	20,00,000/-	25,000/-

Calendar of Events: (1) Date of Notification is 18.03.2023. (2) Tender can be downloaded from 20.03.2023 (3) Tender Closing date 27.03.2023 at 4:00 pm. (4) Technical bid opening date is 29.03.2023 at 11:30 am. (5) Financially Bid Opening Date is 31.03.2023 at 11:30 am if possible. (6) This tender notice can also be seen on the BBMP Website: www.bbmp.gov.in. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture
(Rajarajeshwarinagara Zone)

Government of Karnataka
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DIVISION, CHITRADURGA.
No. EE:PWD:CTA:JE-2:Tender-116:2022-23 Dated: 16.03.2023

SHORT TERM E-TENDER EXTENSION NOTIFICATION

It is notified to the Registered Contractors in KPWD that the tender for the following works vide Notification No. EE:PWD:CTA:JE-2:Tender-116:2022-23, Dated: 13.03.2023 is extended mentioned below.

Sl.No. 1 work Tender dates are as mentioned below: Last Date & time for Tender Queries/Clarifications: 21.03.2023 Time 17:30. Last Date & time for receipt of tenders: 23.03.2023 Time 16:00. Date & time for opening of Technical Bid: 24.03.2023 Time 16:15. Date & time for opening of Financial Bid: 27.03.2023 Time 11:00

Sl.No. 2, 4 and 5 works Tender dates are as mentioned below: Last Date & time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications: 21.03.2023 Time 17:30. Last Date & time for receipt of tenders: 23.03.2023 Time 16:00. Date & time for opening of Financial Bid: 24.03.2023 Time 16:15

Further details can be obtained from this office and H.P. Company helpline Numbers 080-25501216 and 080-25501227.

RO No. 1165: DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/2022-23 **Sd/- Executive Engineer**

KARNATAKA RELIGIOUS & LINGUISTIC MINORITY PROFESSIONAL COLLEGES ASSOCIATION (Regd.) (KRLMPCA)

Flat No.143, 4th Floor, "SURYAMUKHI" Garden Apartments, #21, VittalMalya Road, Bangalore – 560 001 Ph: 080-4112 1233
Email : info@kmca.info

Online Application forms are invited from eligible candidates for **ADMISSIONS to BE Course** in the Member colleges of the Association for the academic year 2023-24. The test would be held on **25-05-2023** at Bangalore, Tumkur, Mangalore and Gulbarga. Intending candidates may visit the website of the Association **www.kmca.info** for details. Online Applications may be downloaded from the Association's website only, with effect from **23-03-2023.**

Sd/- President **Sd/- Secretary**

www.kmca.info

Government of Karnataka
Minor Irrigation and Ground water Development Division, Chitradurga

NO.EE/MI&GWD DIV/CTA/PB-3/TENDER NOTIFICATION: 60/2022-23 DATE:14-03-2023

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION (TWO COVER) KW- 4)

Item rate tender in One and two cover system as per KTPP act-2000 with latest amendments is invited from the eligible Class-III & Above contractors registered in KPWD & CLASS-I contractors registered in Electrical Contractor (KW4) (Minimum amount put to Tender-Rs-335.00 Lakhs and Maximum amount put to Tender Rs-400.00 Lakhs) for the 02 works through e-procurement portal. Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka e-procurement website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 15-03-2023 Last Date & Time for enquiries about tender 23-03-2023 upto 5.30 P.M., Last Date for submission of Tenders 24-03-2023 up to 4.00 P.M. Opening of Technical bid Date: 27-03-2023 after 4.30 P.M (If possible). Opening of Financial bid Date 28-03-2023 after 4.30 P.M (If possible). Tenders may be submitted along with EMD and tender fee (Mode of payment should be online only as prescribed in website). Amount mentioned in e- portal is final for the amount put to tender & the E.M.D. Additional Information regarding works may be obtained from the Division Office during office hours & from e-procurement help desk No.080-25501216 & 080-25501227.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/1158/2022-23 Sd/- Executive Engineer, MI, Chitradurga

PUBLIC NOTICE
LOSS OF ORIGINAL SALE DEED

It is informed to the public that my client **Mrs. PRINCESS FRANKLYN,** w/o Sri. Franklyn James, Aged about 68 years, residing at #215, 1st Main, 6th Cross, BDS Garden, Behind Michael School, Geddalahalli, Kothanur Post, Bangalore- 560 077, represented that while taking xerox has lost/misplaced the original sale deed dated 08/05/2003, executed by Sri. David J Lobo in favour of **Mr. Navin Anand,** bearing its Document No.**BNG(U)KRP/2324/2003-04,** of Book-1, stored in CD No.86, registered in the office of sub-Registrar, KR Pura, Bangalore pertaining to the schedule property. Hence our client had lodged a report intimating the loss of said original in e-lost report in the Jurisdictional Police Station Bengaluru City vide Lost **Report No.0503605/2023 on 16/03/2023.**

The finders of the above documents are requested to return the same to my below mentioned address within **15 days.**

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Residential Site bearing **No.215,** House List Khata No.375, formed in Converted Sy. No.3, converted vide order No. B.DIS.ALN.SR(East) 304/2001-02, dated 24.4.2002, situated at **Geddalahalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, bangalore** measuring East to West 50 feet, North to South 86 +88/2, in all measuring 4350 Sq. ft and bounded on:

East by : Site No.214, West by : Site No.216, North by : Private Property, South by : Road

R. HARSHA, BBA LLB
ADVOCATE
665/3, 1st Main, 1st Cross,
K.Narayanapura, Dr.SRK Nagar post,
K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Tq,
Bangalore-560 077. Ph: +91-9513377337
Email:- harshathgowda555@gmail.com

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸುವುದೇ ನೆಂದರೆ ನನ್ನ ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರಾದ ವಿಕಾಶ್ ಪ್ರಕಾಶ್ ಚಂಪ್ ಜೈನ್ ಬಿನ್ ಕಂಚನ್ ಕಂಕಳಿಯ 38 ವರ್ಷ ವಯಸ್ಸು ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಕಜ್ ಪ್ರಕಾಶ್ ಜೈನ್ ಬಿನ್ ಎಮ್ ಪ್ರಕಾಶ್ ಚಾಂದ್ 42 ವರ್ಷ ವಯಸ್ಸು ಇಬ್ಬರ ವಾಸ ನಂ.126/1, ಫ್ಲಾಟ್ ನಂ.500, ಮಂದಿ ಪ್ಯಾರಡೈಸ್ ಕತ್ರಿಗುಪ್ಪೆ, ಮುಖ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560085 ರವರುಗಳು ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ ನಾರಾಯಣಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರರು ವಾಸ 3ನೇ ಮುಖ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆ, 3ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ, ಬನಶಂಕರಿ 1ನೇ ಹಂತ, ಅಶೋಕನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು 560050 ರವರುಗಳಿಂದ ಜೆಡ್ಡೂಲ್ ಸ್ವತ್ತಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಕ್ರಯದ ಕರಾರು ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಇಚ್ಚಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ

ಸದರಿ ಸ್ವತ್ತಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳು, ಕಂಪನಿ ಹಣಕಾಸು / ಸಂಘ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಇನ್ನಿತರರು, ಯಾವುದೇ ಮೂಲಕ ಹಕ್ಕು ಹಾಗೂ ಹಿತಾಸಕ್ತಿಯನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಾದ 10 ದಿನಗಳೊಳಗಾಗಿ ಸದರಿ ಆಸ್ತಿಯ ಸೂಕ್ತ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ತಮ್ಮ ಅಹವಾಲನ್ನು ಪ್ರತಿಪಾದಿಸಲು ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಸ್ವತ್ತು ಎಲ್ಲಾದರಿಂದಲೂ ಋಣ ಮುಕ್ತ ಆಸ್ತಿಯೆಂದು ಭಾವಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಜೆಡ್ಡೂಲ್ ಸ್ವತ್ತು

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು –560050, ಆಶೋಕ್ ನಗರ, ಬನಶಂಕರಿ 1ನೇ ಹಂತ, 3ನೇ ಕ್ರಾಸ್, 3ನೇ ಮುಖ್ಯರಸ್ತೆ, ನಿವೇಶನ ನಂ.712/46, ಕಾರ್ಪೋರೇಷನ್ ವಿಭಾಗ ನಂ.53 ರ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ : ಪೂರ್ವದಿಂದ ಪಶ್ಚಿಮಕ್ಕೆ 39 ½ ಅಡಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಉತ್ತರದಿಂದ ದಕ್ಷಿಣಕ್ಕೆ 60 ಅಡಿಗಳು, ಒಟ್ಟು 2370 ಚದರ ಅಡಿಗಳು, ವಸತಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡದ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ನೆಲ, ಮೊದಲ ಮತ್ತು ಎರಡನೇ ಮಹಡಿ ಆದರ ಮೇಲಿನ ಸ್ವತ್ತಿಗೆ ಚಕ್ಕುಬಂದಿ :

ಪೂರ್ವಕ್ಕೆ : ನಿವೇಶನ ನಂ.711
ಪಶ್ಚಿಮಕ್ಕೆ : ನಿವೇಶನ ನಂ.713
ಉತ್ತರಕ್ಕೆ : ನಿವೇಶನ ನಂ.690
ದಕ್ಷಿಣಕ್ಕೆ : ರಸ್ತೆ.

ಶೇಷಪ್ಪಗೌಡ ಪಾಟೀಲ್, ವಕೀಲರು,
ಆರ್.ಆರ್. ನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560098,
ದೂ : 9480117041

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND NEURO SCIENCES
INSTITUTE OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE
Hosur Road, Bengaluru, India-560 029. Website: http://www.nimhans.ac.in

No. NIMH/PRO/AUCTION(2)/CONDEMN.VEHICLES/2022-23 Date: 19.03.2023

QUOTATION-CUM-AUCTION NOTIFICATION

Sealed Tenders/Quotations are invited from public for **Disposal of Condemned Vehicles** "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION"

Sl. No.	Vehicle Number	Model
1	KA05-AA-3714 (MAHENDRA BUS)	MARCH 2007
2	KA05-AA-3715 (MAHENDRA BUS)	MARCH 2007

The Tender applications may be obtained from the Public Relation Office, NIMHANS from 20.03.2023 to 25.03.2023 between 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM on payment of Rs.1,000/- (non-refundable). The Tenderers have to enclose **EMD of Rs. 20,000/- in the form of Demand Draft drawn in favour of Director, NIMHANS** along with the sealed Quotation/Tender. The bidders can inspect the items in any working day between 20.03.2023 to 25.03.2023.

The Quotations are to be submitted on or before 27.03.2023 @ 4:00 PM. The sealed Quotations are to be addressed to the Registrar, NIMHANS, along with the EMD to be put in the Tender Box kept near Registrar's Office.

The Quotations will be opened on 28.03.2023 at 11:30 AM in the Lecture Hall No.1, Administrative Block, NIMHANS. The auction among the qualified tenderers will also be held on the same day. The Director, NIMHANS, reserves the right to accept or reject any/ all the tenders/ bids without assigning any reasons. For more details please visit www.nimhans.ac.in.

Sd/-, DIRECTOR, NIMHANS

Choking hazard: Haze over the Pettah junction, about 15 km from the Brahmapuram plant.

Spreading it thin: Fire force personnel use an excavator to spread the garbage.

Aerial strike: Water being poured from a naval helicopter on heaps of garbage on fire.

No outlet: Even a week later, smoke from the fire hangs over Tripunithura.

Hosing down: Fire and Rescue service personnel spray water to quell the smoke.

Timed together: As water is sprayed on the smouldering garbage, an excavator spreads out the heaps to ensure water reaches everywhere.

Hit by smoke: The affected people attending a medical camp organised by the Health Department at Nettoor in Kochi.

Kodava Development Corporation will be notified soon: CM

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai at the inauguration of the Kodava Hockey Festival at Napoklu in Kodagu on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said in Napoklu on Saturday that the government was committed to the welfare and growth of the Kodava community, and that the Kodava Community Development Corporation would be notified soon.

Mr. Bommai said this has been a long-pending demand from the community and steps would be taken to realise it.

He was speaking after the inauguration of the Kodava Hockey Festival in which families of the community are participating.

Describing the festival as unique, he said perhaps it is the only tournament or festival in the world where sport is being harnessed to strengthen family and community relationship.

The tournament, being organised by families for families, is a unique concept and is special because it is being held when cultural values with emphasis on family relationship are getting eroded, said Mr. Bommai.

The hockey festival is being held from March 18 to April 9 and more than 300 families or teams have registered for it. This is the 23rd edition of the event, which had a four-year break from 2018 onwards owing to natural calamities in the district followed by the COVID-19 pandemic. This year's edition is being conducted by the Appachettolanda family in association with the Kodava Hockey Academy. The idea of a family tournament to bring together Kodava families was conceived by late Pandanda Kuttappa and the first edition was held in 1997.

भारतीय प्रबंध संस्थान बोधगया
Indian Institute of Management Bodh Gaya

Invites application for

Admission to the Doctoral (Ph.D.) Programme commencing June 2023

Applicant must have either a Master's degree or, professional qualification like CA /ICWA/CS with minimum 60% or equivalent grade point average. or 4 Year/8 Semester Bachelor's degree in Engineering (B.E./B.Tech./B.Arch.) with minimum 65% or equivalent. See IIMBG website **(https://iimbg.ac.in/phd)** for details.

An applicant is required to have taken the **CAT (2020/2021/2022)** or **GRE/GMAT/GATE/JRF,** the date of the examination must be 1st July 2020 or later with score validity on or after 1st January 2023. Details are available at **https://iimbg.ac.in/programs/admission/**

Area of Specialization: Marketing; Economics; Finance & Accounting; Strategy & Entrepreneurship; Organizational Behaviour & Human Resource Management; Information Technology Systems & Analytics; Operations Management & Quantitative Techniques, and Humanities & Liberal Arts (Business Communication).

Financial Support: Stipend, student development support, computer grant, support for field research, and support to attend an international conference.

Reservation: Government of India guidelines for reservation are followed.

How to Apply: For application, visit https://admission.iimbg.ac.in/phd2023/

Last date to apply- 15th April 2023.

A N SINHA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES, PATNA -1

Admission for Ph. D. Programme 2023-24

A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna is one of the premier Institutes of Social Sciences. The Institute was established by Govt. of Bihar as an Autonomous organisation in 1964, recognized and supported by ICSSR, New Delhi. Fresh applications are invited for Provisional Admission in Course Work of Ph. D. Programme 2023-24 in Economics and Agricultural Economics; Sociology and Social Anthropology; Political Science and Public Administration; Social Psychology and Social Geography. Candidates should have Post Graduate degree in Social Sciences or equivalent in concerned subjects or allied subjects from recognized University with 55% minimum marks (5% relaxation to the OBC, EBC, SC, ST candidates). Reservation Policy will be followed as per Govt. of Bihar rules. Candidates successfully completing the Ph. D. Course Work will be eligible for Registration for Ph. D. Programme through Aryabhatta Knowledge University, Patna. For details, refer to our website: **www.ansiss.res.in.** Application Form can be downloaded from the website. The last date for receipt of filing application form is **15.04.2023.** Only shortlisted candidates will be called for Written Test / Interview. The Institute reserves the right to fill up the seats or otherwise.

Director

Institute of Bioinformatics and Applied Biotechnology
(established by the Department of Electronics, IT, BT and S&T, Government of Karnataka)
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Last Date for Receiving Online Applications :	Online Test :	Commencement of Course :
13 May 2023	28 May 2023 Personal Interview : June 2023	July 2023

Eligibility : Bachelor's Degree in any branch of Life Science / Technology / Agriculture / Mathematics / Statistics / Computer Science or Medicine **
(Those appearing for Final Examinations / Awaiting results are eligible to apply)

** See website for further details. All dates are tentative and any change will be announced on the IBAB website

Details : www.ibab.ac.in
E-mail : msc@ibab.ac.in Phone : 080-2852 8901 / 2852 8902 / 98458 10391

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DEPARTMENT	QUALIFICATION	SALARY
Radiologist	MDRD, DMRD, DNB	4-5 Lakhs
Gynaecologist	MD, DGO, DNB	2-3 Lakhs
General Medicine	MD, DNB	2-3 Lakhs
Dermatologist	MD, DDVL	-
RMO	MBBS	60K - 1 Lakh
Staff / Technician	GNM, CT, XRAY, OT, ICU	Skilled Base

St.MARY'S MATERNITY AND GENERAL HOSPITAL
No.11, Chinthamani, Puliangudi, Tenkasi, Tamil Nadu - 627855
✆ 9942979142 / 9688703330 / 9444109313 / 9786663330

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KARNATAKA
(Established by an Act of the Parliament in 2009)
Kadaganchi, Aland Road, Kalaburagi -585 367.
Phone (08477) – 226722
Website: www.cuk.ac.in, Email: registrar@cuk.ac.in

NOTIFICATION NO. 31/2023

The University invites applications through an online mode from eligible candidates for the appointment of Professors and Associate Professors in various departments through direct recruitment. Interested candidates may please visit: **www.cuk.ac.in** for more details. The last date for submission of online Application is **17/04/2023** and the last date to receive hardcopy of online application along with all enclosures is **27/04/2023** up to **5:00 p.m.**

Place : Kalaburagi
Date : 13/03/2023

Sd/-
REGISTRAR

RAJALAKSHMI HEALTH CITY
ANNAII MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL
Pennalur,Chennai - 602 117

Applications are invited for the following positions:
Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor/SR/Tutor

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- Physiology
- Pharmacology
- Pathology
- Forensic Medicine
- Community Medicine

CLINICAL
- General Medicine
- Paediatrics
- Respiratory Medicine
- Emergency Medicine
- General Surgery
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- Orthopaedics
- Ophthalmology
- Radio Diagnosis
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APPLICATIONS ARE ALSO INVITED FOR
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- Biomedical
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Apply by mail: recruitment@annaiimedicalcollege.edu.in
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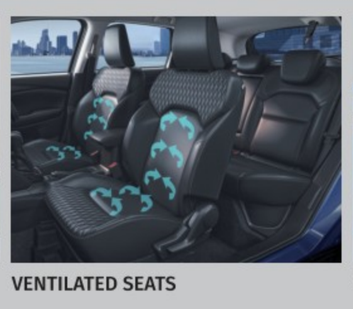
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One RTC staff union withdraws strike call, another to go ahead with it from March 24

KSRTC MD has assured us that pay revision will be applicable from January 1, 2020, says Joint Action Committee of employees' trade unions

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The four corporations - KSRTC, BMTC, NWKRTC, and KKRTC - have a workforce of 1.07 lakh, and the pay revision for employees has been pending since January 2020. FILE PHOTO

After a meeting with the Managing Director of Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC), the Joint Action Committee of employees' trade unions decided to withdraw its strike scheduled for March 21 demanding changes to their pay revisions.

"The Managing Director listened to all our concerns. He has assured that the pay revision will be applicable from January 1, 2020, itself. He also told us that for the first time, the Government Order had created an opportunity for employees' unions to participate in arrear discussions. He further said that other issues like payment series, bata, increment, and incentives will be discussed and solved at the corporation level. Hence, we have withdrawn our strike call," the Joint Action Committee said in a press release.

However, the other union, Sarige Nigmagala Noukarara Samana Manaskara Vedike, has decided to go ahead with their indefinite strike from March 24.

"When government employees went on a strike, they assured them of implementing the 7th Pay commission and also gave them a 17% hike. When KPTCL employees called for a strike, the government hiked their overall pay by 20%. But only for transport employees, they are not sticking to their written assurances and have only hiked basic pay 15% and cut down on all other economic benefits," the vedike members said.

Legal notice given

They added that they had already provided all the necessary legal notices to officials concerned and they will begin their strike on March 24 unless their demands are met.

"We do not know what the other union has negotiated with the government, but our demands still stand and we will go ahead with the strike," a member said.

The Transport Department, on Thursday said that a 15% hike will be added to the basic salary of the RTC employees, which did not go well with the latter. They said that the government did not keep up its assurances which in turn, forced them to call for a strike.

The State government issued an order on Friday evening announcing a 15% increase in the basic salary of RTC employees, a day after Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced the same. Negotiations started with Transport Minister B. Sriramulu making promise of hike by 10%. Later, in the meeting with the MDs of the corporation, it was proposed to increase up to 14%, after which the Chief Minister finally announced that the salary of employees will be increased by 15%.

The four corporations - KSRTC, BMTC, NWKRTC, and KKRTC - have a workforce of 1.07 lakh employees and the pay revision for employees has been pending since January 2020.

HC fiat to student who came to India on tourist visa and completed MBBS as 'Indian citizen'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has directed a 26-year-old medical graduate, who had completed MBBS degree under government quota by falsely declaring herself as an Indian citizen though she is a citizen of the U.S. by birth, to pay the fees prescribed for NRI quota seat if she wants get exit permit to go back to the U.S., or face penal action.

Stating that the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is well within its power to initiate any proceedings against Bhanu C. Ramachandran, petitioner, for violating provisions of the Citizenship Act and the Foreigners Act, the court said it was showing leniency in allowing her to go back to the U.S. if she pays the NRI quota fees for all the five years.

The leniency is because "she was a student and probably was not aware of consequences of law or the breach of law and falsehood", the court said.

'Snatched away'

However, the court observed: "The petitioner had snatched away the chance of a genuine Indian student from getting a seat for MBBS course under the government quota. If she is let off the hook without any condition, it would be putting a premium on the misrepresentation that she has made throughout calling herself to be an 'Indian citizen'."

"She now wants to pursue higher education and settle down in the U.S. based on the basic qualification she acquired in this country based on falsehood," the court noted.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order on the petition filed by Ms. Bhanu questioning the decision of immigration authorities rejecting her application for grant of exit permit to return to the U.S. to pursue her career.

The court directed the MHA to issue the exit permit if she pays the NRI quota fees for all the five years of her MBBS course and submits a no-objection certificate from the State authorities for having paid such fees. However, the court gave liberty to the MHA to initiate penal action against her as per law if she fails to pay such a fee.

Background

The petitioner was born to an Indian couple in Nashville, Tennessee, U.S., in February 1997. Her mother, who is an Indian citizen, brought the petitioner to India in 2003 on a tourist visa following marital discord with her husband. The petitioner was six-years-old when she entered India on the tourist visa valid for only six months, and never returned. She completed her schooling and PU education as an "Indian citizen" and declared herself as an "Indian citizen" even while applying for medical seat through Common Entrance Test (CET) in 2015. She had completed 18 years when she wrote CET in 2015 and secured 571st rank, and was allotted a seat for MBBS course in Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences.

Renews passport

After completing MBBS course in 2020, she applied for a renewal of her passport before the U.S. Consulate General, Chennai, on the ground that she had not renounced her citizenship or nationality of the U.S. before completion of six months after attaining majority as per the law. Accepting her application, the U.S. Consulate General issued a passport to her in March, 2021, for a period of one year asking her to get regular passport in the U.S.

After receiving the U.S. passport, she applied with the Bureau of Immigration (BoI), New Delhi, seeking exit permit. The BOI, which found that she had also secured Aadhaar, PAN, and driving licence claiming to be an "Indian citizen", refused exit permit. BoI also communicated to the State authorities about false declarations made by her and instructed imposition of NRI/Foreign national quota fee on her. She had approached the High Court in 2021 on denial of exit permit.

The court refused to accept her claim that she has attained Indian citizenship by descent as she had not renounced the citizenship of the U.S. within six months on attaining majority.

Panel formed to give report on meditation in schools, colleges

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After backlash to its order issued in November 2022 mandating 10 minutes of dhyana or meditation to be practised in all schools and pre-university colleges, the State government has now constituted a committee of educationists headed by Gururaj Karjagi to submit a report on the same.

In a circular issued on Saturday, the Department of School Education and Literacy said the six-member committee will submit its report within a month. P.G. Dwarakanath and V.B. Aarathi are among the members .

Minister B.C. Nagesh had then said that meditation would help students reduce their physical and mental stress while improveing concentration and health. However, some student groups and educationists had called the move as the "saffronisation of education."

A day to celebrate waste pickers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

It was a day to celebrate the work of waste pickers as Hasiru Dala, in collaboration with Thyajya Shramika Sangha, organised Hasiru Habba on Saturday at Freedom Park .

Hasiru Habba is held annually to celebrate waste pickers' contributions to the environment. A Krishna, an operator at a BBMP Waste Collection Centre, said: "More than help, what we get when Hasiru Habba happens every year is happiness. It is a day dedicated just for us waste pickers. We work for 10-12 hours everyday, having one day just for us makes us very happy. Hasiru Habba helps make other people outside our communities aware of all the struggles we face." He further added that reading out their tasks and demands to the authorities gives them some hope, but not much happens.

While talking about how corporate companies are taking over their occupation, Mr. Krishna said that over 25,000 families in the city are dependent on waste picking. "All we want is for these corporate companies to support us, not take over our only source of income. We are not as educated and this is our livelihood." He said that working as waste pickers gives them a sense of entrepreneurship but once the corporate organisations take over they will be left with nothing to do.

"Waste pickers from across the city gather, and their demands and issues are communicated to the officials concerned and departments," said Soubhagya, social security director of Hasiru Dala. She said that this year they read out the demands amidst the presence of BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath.

First edition of Mahindra Percussion Festival takes off

Arkatapa Basu
BENGALURU

A. Sivamani performing at the Mahindra Percussion Festival in Bengaluru on Saturday. K. MURALI KUMAR

The earthy sound of drums and percussion instruments marked the first edition of the Mahindra Percussion Festival hosted on the grounds of Jayamahal Palace Hotel on Saturday evening.

The event features a number of renowned global and Indian percussionists ranging from Ranjit Barot, artist and curator of the festival, A. Sivamani, V. Selvaganesh, Pulse Conversation, Ta Dhom Project, to the Spanish group Paquito Ensemble, Armenian-origin American musician Arto Tuncboyaciyan, Kerala's Chemmeen Band, featuring Aattam Kalasamithi.

The six-hour-long festival filled with food, fun, and ethereal music brought forth a mixture of global and street-style percussion music that celebrated music without boundaries and transcended the margins of music genres.

Eclectic mix

An eclectic mix of Indian percussion music, rap, Konnakol, and rhythmic western beats, the venue was full of people jiving to the beats. The performances included collaborations between Sivamani and musicians such as the Pulse Conversations featuring Gino Banks, Vinayak Pol, and Jai Row Kavi, and multi-instrumentalist Arto Tuncboyaciyan. Pulse Conversation's drum beats along with Sivamani's unique percussion sounds melded together to produce tunes that paid homage to natural elements such as water and aether.

The six-hour-long festival filled with food, fun, and ethereal music brought forth a mix of global and street-style percussion music

Viveick Rajagopalan's Ta Dhom Project also presented one of their new songs called 'Music without border' which featured three rappers originating from Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. Their song, a mix of Marathi, Tamil and Bhojpuri rap and Konnakol, highlighted the main theme of the song and truly broke the constraints of genre while being accompanied by the beats of Viveick Rajagopalan's Mridangam.

Wall painting

The festival ended with energetic beats of one of Spain's top percussionists Paquito Gonzalez with his ensemble along with guitarist Jose Quevedo aka Bolita and flamenco dancer Antonia Molina "El Choro."

The event also featured a wall painting by the Aravani art project, which seeks to bring forward transgender discourse to public spaces

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Last date for online application submission
19.05.2023 (Friday) up to 5.30 p.m. (Server Time)

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M BG-BGE

NHM workers' strike: Health Department to invoke ESMA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Health Department has decided to invoke provisions of the Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA) against the National Health Mission (NHM) insourced employees, whose strike entered the 35th day on Saturday.

Two days ago, the employees were issued a notice by the NHM State Mission Director to get back to work, with an assurance that their demands would be studied.

Following the strike, all national health programmes in Karnataka, including routine immunisation, tobacco control, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram , National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme, District Mental Health Programme, and even AYUSH services have almost come to a standstill.

Work has been hit in several urban primary health centres and boards have been put up outside the centres informing the public about the strike.

Demanding regularisation of services, nearly 15,000 NHM-insourced staff are staging a protest demonstration at Freedom Park in the city since February 13. Around 30,000 staff members across 186 cadres, including doctors and paramedical staff, who were formally appointed under the NHM through committees headed by zilla panchayat chief executive officers (CEOs) since 2006, have been handling national health programmes, among other prime responsibilities in hospitals. They are paid directly under the NHM and not through an intermediate agency.

Citing the example of regularisation of NHM employees in Manipur, Punjab, and Rajasthan, the protesters have demanded that their services be regularised too.

Bajrang Dal activists stop women's party in Shivamogga

It was organised at a private hotel; 'we don't know why police and activists stopped the party'

The Hindu Bureau
HASSAN

Bajrang Dal activists allegedly stopped a party organised at a private hotel in Shivamogga on Friday night. Around 70 participants, a majority of them women, were sent out of the party.

Activists of the Bajrang Dal, under the leadership of Rajesh Gowda, gathered in front of Hotel Cliff Embassy on Kuvempu Road to protest against the party inside. The Doddapete police reached the spot. Within a few minutes, all the women and accompanying men left the hotel.

Rajesh Gowda, district convener of Bajrang Dal, told the media that the organisation had information about the party, 'Ladies Night'. "This is not part of our culture. We will not allow such events in Shivamogga because we do not want our city to become another Manipal," he said.

The hotel where the incident took place in Shivamogga on Friday.

He claimed that his organisation did not take the law into their own hands but instead informed the police, who stopped the party.

The representatives of the hotel said it was an event organised for women customers of the hotel. "We wanted to hold an event on March 8 to mark International Women's Day. We could not do that due to other engagements, so we scheduled it for Friday. Around 70 customers had gathered. We had allowed women and a few men who had accompanied them," said Shankar K., general manager of the hotel.

Both the police and Bajrang Dal activists entered the party hall and sent the customers out. "We have a CL-7 licence to run the bar. And we were playing music. There was nothing objectionable at the party. We don't know why the police and the activists stopped the party," he said.

Loss

"The hotel has suffered a loss of around ₹1 lakh due to the incident. The hotel has a good reputation. In fact, we have served VIPs, including the Prime Minister's Office people, during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to Shivamogga. All senior officers of the district administration know about this. If we have done anything wrong, we are ready to accept it. But we did not do anything. We don't know why they are obstructing us from doing our business," Mr. Shankar said. He added that the hotel administration would take a call on filing a complaint with regard to the incident.

However, the police maintained that they did not stop the party either. Shivamogga Superintendent of Police G.K. Mithun Kumar told *The Hindu* that as soon as he received information about a group trying to stop the party, police officers were sent to the spot. "The police intervened and avoided any untoward incident. We did not stop the party," he said. He said the police would investigate if women or hotel representatives filed any complaint regarding the incident.

Election Commission makes seizures totalling ₹92.97 crore

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Cracking down on voter inducement by political leaders in the State, the Election Commission has made seizures totalling ₹92.97 crore, including cash, liquor, drugs, and metals, in the last 48 hours.

The model code of conduct for the Assembly elections is yet to be enforced in the State.

The amount of cash seized was ₹1.2 crore, while liquor worth ₹2.66 crore, narcotics worth ₹1.88 crore, precious metals worth ₹1.9 crore, and other items (freebies) worth ₹1.58 crore were seized, said a statement from the office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka.

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar during his three-day poll preparedness review in the State last week said that the use of money power was a major concern in Karnataka. While the Election Commission was prepared in terms of physical infrastructure, the State agencies were lagging behind in regulating the distribution of freebies, he had said.

CEC's directive

Mr. Rajiv Kumar had directed officials to extensively use sections 171-B and 171-E of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) to regulate such malpractices.

LOST

I, **Smt. USHA PADMANABHAN,** aged 55 years, W/o. **Mr. H. Padmanabhan**, residing at Flat No. T2C1503, Mahindra Windchimes, No.37/2A, Arekere, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru-560076, do hereby inform to the general public that I have lost the original Construction Agreement of property bearing Flat No.33, Third Floor, Godavari Goodwill Apartment, 3rd Main Road, Attiguppe, Chandra Layout, Bengaluru-560040, measuring 1600 Sq.ft., regd. before the Public Notary on 18-03-1994 executed by M/s. Pamavathy Build-Tech Pvt.Ltd., represented by its Director Sri. K.S. Krishna Prasad, I/f. of my father N. Jayaraman. Police complaint has been lodged and filed an FIR Lost Report No. 0501490/2023 dated 15-03-2023. Finders may contact the undersigned within 10 days from the date of this notice. **USHA PADMANABHAN - (M) No. 9820080490 & 8879374276.**

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

C. SHANMUGAM (89) , Retired Assistant Circulation Officer, The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 18-03-2023. Address: Old No: 12/2, New No: 25, Paripoorana Vinayagar Koil Street, Mylapore, Chennai- 600004. Contact No: 9551865404

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES

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Short Term E-Tender Notification

Tenders are invited by undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, PWD Division Hosapete, Vijayanagara Dist, for the work notified in the statement below. The bid shall be in Two Cover system namely technical bid and financial bid through Electronic system containing details of EMD through website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sl. No	Work Indent No	Estimate Cost (Rs in Lakhs)
1	KPWD/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT165294	152.95
2	KPWD/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT165002	200.00
3	KPWD/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT167126	175.00
4	KPWD/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT165203	500.00
5	KPWD/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT167567	190.00
6	KPWD/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT159519	15.00
7	KPWD/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT167614	25.00
8	KPWD/2016-17/RD/WORK_INDENT53138	25.00

1 Quarries of Tender On **As Per E-procurement Portal.** 2 Last Date of Tender Submission On **23/03/2023 @ 16.00 Hours.** 3 Tender Opening date On **24/03/2023. @ 11.30 Hours.** 4 Financial Bid Opening Date **As Per E-procurement Portal.**

Note: 1. Any Changes Either in Tender date or any other condition , Tenderers can view in E-procurement Portal.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
DIPR/Vijayanagar/436/KSMCA/2022-23 **PWD Division Hosapete, Vijayanagara District.**

Government of Karnataka
DEPARTMENT OF MINES & GEOLOGY
#49, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560001
E-mail: dir-mines@karnataka.gov.in

No. DMG-17012/1/2023
C No : 1028274 **Date: 18.03.2023**

NOTIFICATION AND NOTICE INVITING TENDER
"Invitation of bids for grant of Mining Lease for Limestone Mineral Block

In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 10(B) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules, 2015 and the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 and amendments notified thereunder, the Government of Karnataka is conducting the auction for 1 limestone block/mine for grant of Mining Lease and hereby invites tenders through electronic auction.

Limestone Mine for grant of Mining Lease through auction

Sl. No.	Name of the block	District	Mineral	Concession Area (in Ha.)	Estimated Resources (in MMT)	Tender fee
1.	Yadwad Limestone Mine	Belagavi	Limestone	54.156	18.47	INR 5,00,000/- + 18% GST

Any person, firm or company who satisfies the eligibility criteria can participate in the auction. Technical and financial bids for the above listed blocks are invited online. Apart from the online Technical Bids, bidders will have to submit duly executed original physical copies of their Technical Bids to the Tender Inviting Authority i.e. Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka.

Eligibility conditions, terms and conditions, date and time for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. Tender Documents, notifications, updates and other details for the e-auction process shall be available in electronic form only at the website of MSTC Ltd **http://www. mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcl/index.jsp).**

Interested and eligible bidders can register themselves at the above website. On successful registration, bidders will obtain login ID and password, which are necessary for participation in the e-auction process. Model Tender Document and summary of the block shall be available free of cost at the website of MSTC Limited **(http://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcl/index.jsp).** For participating in the bidding process, the registered bidders will have to purchase the block specific tender document at the website of MSTC Ltd as per fees mentioned in the table for each block.

The GST at the rate of 18% on the purchase of tender document shall be applicable. The GST applicable is to be paid by the prospective bidder itself under the **Reverse Charge Mechanism.** The prospective bidder shall be solely responsible for remitting the GST as per applicable law and statutory liability in this regard will be responsibility of prospective bidder and no liability whatsoever shall be borne by the DMG Karnataka /MSTC.

The sale of tender document shall commence from **20 March 2023.** Last date for sale of tender document at the website of MSTC Ltd is 05 May 2023. Last date for submission of Technical Bids plus the Initial Price Offers at the website of MSTC Ltd is **12 May 2023** (up to 17:00 hours IST). Physical copies of the Technical Bids must reach the Tender Inviting Authority i.e. Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka by **17:00** hours IST on **12 May 2023**.

Sd/-
Director

DIPR/CP/5367/Zenkar/2022-23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT MANGALURU DIVISION MANGALURU

Ref :-PW:DIV:MAG:TND(98E/96E/95E):2022-23:JE-3: **Dated :18.03.2023**

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION / Extension

The Executive Engineer, PWD, Divn. Mangaluru Inviting Tender under E-tendering in http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in portal from eligible Tenderers in accordance with KTTP Act Indent No : 168157, 167770, 167899, 167769, 167729, 167618 **under the Head of account :- 5054-04-337-0-01-154 District and Other Roads Improvements** And Indent No: 167410 **Under the Head Of Account :- 5054-03-101-0-02-132 - MDR Bridge.**

Inviting **Tender for Extension** Indent No. 167068, **Under the Head Of Account :- 5054-03-337-0-17-154 State Highway Improvements.** Indent No. 167772, 167768, 167767 167864, 167877, 167873 **under the Head of account:-** 5054-04-337-0-01-154 **District and Other Roads Improvements.** Indent No. 167647, 167604 **Under the Head Of Account**:- 2059-80-053-4-00-200 **Deprtment Building Maintenance.** Indent No. 167832 **under the Head of account :- 3054-03-337-0-05-200 State Highway Maintenance.** Indent No: 168008 and 168003 **Under the Head Of Account:- 8443 Deposit Contribution.Last date for reciept of above tender : 27.03.2023 upto 17.30 Hours.**

Inviting Tender for Indent No. 167775 **under the Head of account :- 5054-04-337-0-01-154 District and Other Roads Improvements.** Inviting Tender for Extension Indent No. 167740, 167794, 167761, 167762, 167763, 167765, 167766, 167773, 167774 **under the Head of account :- 5054-04-337-0-01-154 District and Other Roads Improvements. Last date for reciept of above tender : 24.03.2023 upto 17.30 Hours.** In the above Work Highest Cost of Estimate is Rs.125.00 Lakhs & Lowest Cost of Estimate is Rs.15.00 Lakhs.

Any Change in dates of events and value of work put to tender and EMD amount etc only can been seen from e -portal **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.**

DIPR/MNG/KSMCA/1566/22-23 dt.18.03.2023 **Sd/- Executive Engineer**

Department of Public Instruction
Karnataka School Quality Assessment and Accreditation Council

KSEAB, 6th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560 003. Ph: 080-23341615, 23562283, 29720300, e-mail: **ksqaacbangalore@gmail.com & ksqaacbengaluru@gmail.com**

No: K1/KSQAAC/5th & 8th Assessment/05/2022-23 Date: 18.03.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE
Class 5th & 8th Assessment related note

- Class 5th & 8th Assessment does not entail detention of any student in the same class, all the students will be promoted to the next class. The failure will be totally Nil.
- Class 5th & 8th Assessment is not an annual examination. It is just an assessment.
- The students and parents are informed that the objective of this assessment is to know the students learning deficiencies, learning progress and to carry out educational programmes to eliminate the learning deficiency in the next academic year.
- The result of this assessment will be communicated only to the concerned parents and students. Thereby the confidentiality of the result will be maintained.
- The questions framed for the assessment are derived from the Textbook.

Sd/- Chairperson, KSEAB

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Owned by the Government of Karnataka)
Office of the Superintending Engineer (Ele), O & M Circle, GESCOM
Koppal-583231. Tel No: 08539-200023 Email: seemrbgescom@gmail.com
Register Office, GESCOM, Main Road, Kalaburagi-585102. Website: gescom.in
CIN: U4010KA2002SGC030436

No: SEE/O&M/EEE(O)/AEE(O)/KPL/TF-68/2022-23/5463 **Date:17.03.2023**

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Only Through e-Procurement Portal)

Office of the Superintending Engineer Ele., O&M Circle, GESCOM, Koppal

Sl. No	C&M Division	Tender Number	Amount put to Tender EMD Amount	Last date & time for Submission of Tender	Date & time for Opening of Tender
1	Koppal	SEE/EE(O)/AEE(O)/KPL/22-23/ Bandi-1/Call-2	2032489.00 / 41000.00	03.04.2023 at 17:00 hrs	05.04.2023 at 11:00 hrs
2		SEE/EE(O)/AEE(O)/KPL/22-23/ Chaligera-2/Call-2	2032489.00 / 41000.00		
3		SEE/EE(O)/AEE(O)/KPL/22-23/ H.V.Kunta-4/Call-2	2032489.00 / 41000.00		
4		SEE/EE(O)/AEE(O)/KPL/22-23/ Kampasagara-5/Call-2	2032489.00 / 41000.00		
5		SEE/EE(O)/AEE(O)/KPL/22-23/ Kukanoor-6/Call-2	2032489.00 / 41000.00		
6		SEE/EE(O)/AEE(O)/KPL/22-23/ Kukanapalli-7/Call-2	2032489.00 / 41000.00		

For more details log on the website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after date: 20.03.2023 Last date of submission of bid is 03.04.2023 at 05:00PM.

For any clarification and details please contact office of the undersigned during officer hours Ph: 08539-200023/200033 or 9483043703 on all working days. E-Procurement Help-Desk Contact No:080-22371090/080-22340948.

DIPR/Koppal/755/KSMCA/2022-23 **Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele) O&M Circle, GESCOM., Koppal.**

Huli-Simha Dhama,Thavarekoppa, Shivamogga

No.: E.D./T&L/Tender/CR/2022-23 Date: 17.03.2023

Short-Term Tender Notice
(Through e-Procurement Portal)

Short-Term Tenders are invited through e-procurement portal for undertaking works related to Road Work in the limits of Huli-Simha Dhama,Thavarekoppa. Last date for submission of the said tender: 24.03.2023 up to 5.30 PM. For further information this office can be contacted during office hours and can be obtained through www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Director, Huli-Simha Dhama, Thavarekoppa, Shivamogga

DIPR/smg/No.147/03/mca/22-23/2183

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Executive Engineer, Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Limited, No.1, HLBC, Division, Channarayapatna

POSTPONEMENT FOR SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION-1 DATED:18.03.2023

Sub: Postponement for Short term Tender Notification. Ref: This office Short term Tender Notification No.25/2022-23 Dtd : 13.03.2023. The 3 works notified under the reference is postponed due to Technical problem in reference (1). Now the contractor can request the e-proc documents and can have access eproc. Contractors can download the documents form 18.03.2023 to 27.03.2023 upto 4.00 P.M. will be the last date for submission of application through eproc. Date of Opening of Technical bid on 28.03.2023 at 5.00 P.M, and financial bid will be opened soon after the approval to technical bid.If any variation found in amount put to tender and E.M.D, amount mentioned in the bid document will be consider as final.Note: Further details can be obtained from the above office or e-procurement website (www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in).

Sd/- Executive Engineer, No.1, HLBC Division, Channarayapatna

ವಾಸಾಸಂ೧/ಹಿಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/ಎಂಸಿಎ/1280/2022-23

Government of Karnataka
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department,
Mandya Division, Mandya, Phone: 08232-222363,
email:eerwsmdy@gmail.com

No:EE/RDW&SD/MDY/JJM TENDER22-23/2022-23/3274 **Dated: 15.03.2023**

1.Short term Re Tender Notification NO-24/2021-22 (One Cover System)5th Call
2. Short term Re Tender Notification NO-09/2022-23 (Two Cover System)4th & 6th Call
3. Short term Re Tender Notification NO-20/2022-23 (One & Two Cover System)3rd Call (e-procurement portal)

On behalf of Governor of karnataka, The E.E, R.D.W & S Division, Mandya invited tender for Providing FHTCs Works in Madduru & Nagamanagala Tq and Construction OHT in Madduru Tq in Mandya District from eligible bidders. Pre-Bid Meeting **Dt:21-03-2023** Time:11:00 AM (Place:O/O EE, RDWSD, Mandya), Last Date & Time for Receipt of Bids:-**23.03.2023 Time :05:30 PM**, Date & Time of Technical & Financial Bid Opening: **24.03.2023 Time:05:35 PM** . Date & Time of Financial Bid Opening:.**31.03.2023 Time:11:00 AM.** Amount Put to tender Maximum:Rs.191.88 Lakhs. More details can be obtained through e-procurement portal of Govt of karnataka **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or from this office during working hours.Phone No: 08232-222363

Sd/-Executive Engineer
Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Division, Mandya

DIPR/AD-MDY/KSMCA/815/2022-23

Siddaramaiah's dilemma over Kolar seat continues

A Congress internal survey has revealed it is a tough terrain for him; the party high command has reportedly advised him against contesting from the constituency

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

The Congress top brass' suggestion to Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah not to contest from Kolar constituency has apparently put the former Chief Minister in a Catch-22 situation on choosing the constituency for the upcoming Legislative Assembly elections.

Sources in the Congress said the party's internal survey revealed a "setback" to Mr. Siddaramaiah if he contested from Kolar. The central leaders reportedly conveyed survey findings to the former Chief Minister through the former AICC president Rahul Gandhi, after the party's Central Election Committee meeting in New Delhi on Friday. Mr. Gandhi reportedly asked Mr. Siddaramaiah to contest from Varuna constituency in Mysuru district, represented by his son Yathindra.

Yatra postponed

Meanwhile, Mr. Siddaramaiah, seven-time MLA, postponed his Praja Dhwani Yatra in Kolar on March 19 and 21, said Kolar DCC president C. Lakshminarayana. This fuelled uncertainty about Mr. Siddaramaiah contesting from Kolar.

Asked about the constituency he will be contesting from, Mr. Siddaramaiah, who arrived in Bengaluru on Saturday, said, he would abide by the high command's decision. To a question on reports about Mr. Gandhi advising him not to contest from Kolar, he said, "I have left it to the high command. Whatever the high command decides, I will go by that."

A file photo of Congress leader Siddaramaiah being greeted by his supporters during his Kolar visit.

Kolar's curious electoral history

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Kolar, close to Bengaluru, is currently represented by K. Srinivas Gowda, who has been suspended from the Janata Dal (Secular) for his alleged anti-party activities.

In the last 14 Assembly elections in Kolar, the Congress won five times, Independents on seven occasions, while the Janata Dal (United) and the JD(S) won once each. Mr. Gowda has won four times as an Independent, from the Congress, the JD(U), and the JD (S).

Srinivas Gowda's stand

He told a TV channel on Saturday that he would not support any Congress candidate, while he too would not contest the elections.

Karnataka Votes 2023

Mr. Siddaramaiah, who is MLA from Badami, had earlier said he had decided to contest the upcoming elections from Kolar, subject to approval from the party high command. Incidentally, when Mr. Siddaramaiah applied for the party ticket last year, he had not indicated any constituency from which he was seeking the ticket.

Factionalism within the Congress in the Kolar unit, lack of party base in the constituency, and a mixed voter basket in Kolar, comprising a chunk of Muslim, Dalit, Kurubas, and the dominant Vokkaliga, might have been cited as reasons for predicting that it would prove a tough terrain for the senior Congress leader.

Speculation is rife in the political circles that the former Chief Minister might opt for either Varuna or one of the constituencies in Bengaluru.

In 2018, he contested from two constituencies and lost to G.T. Deve Gowda (JD-S) in Chamundeshwari constituency and narrowly won against Transport Minister B. Sriramulu by about 1,700 votes.

The 75-year-old Congress leader chose Kolar on the ground that Badami was too far from Bengaluru.

Though his followers offered to buy a helicopter to visit Badami, Mr. Siddaramaiah turned down their offer.

Congress first list likely on Ugadi day

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday said the first list of Congress candidates for the Legislative Assembly elections, which is likely by May, would be announced on March 22, the day of Ugadi festival, which is observed as new year by Kannadigas.

Rahul's visit

Mr. Siddaramaiah, who participated in the Congress' Central Election Committee meeting in New Delhi on Friday, said the meeting discussed poll strategy and party MP Rahul Gandhi's visit to Belgavi on Monday.

The committee, headed by party president M. Mallikarjun Kharge, met on Friday in New Delhi, during which, according to sources, it approved the first list of 125 candidates, which includes 61 incumbent MLAs.

CM unveils 108-ft-tall statue of Mahadeshwara at M.M. Hills

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai unveiled a 108-ft-tall statue of Male Mahadeshwara at M.M. Hills in Chamarajanagar district on Saturday.

This comes close on the heels of Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiling the 108-ft-tall statue of Kempe Gowda at the international airport in Bengaluru. The Chief Minster has promised a Basaveshwara statue of a similar height in North Karnataka. Mr. Bommai, on Friday, unveiled a 65-ft-tall statue of Akka Mahadevi at Udutadi in Shikaraipur.

On Saturday, at M.M. Hills, the Chief Minister also dedicated a silver chariot to the temple on the occasion and promised to announce a special package for Chamarajanagar district, a backward region, within the next two days. Mr. Bommai said he had sought a report from the Deputy Commissioner on the issues affecting the people living on the forest fringes, transportation issues, and education and health related matters.

The report has been submitted and a special package would be announced to resolve the problems of the local people, said Mr. Bommai. There was a demand for upgrading the primary health centre at M.M. Hills and it was being taken up, he added.

Mr. Bommai said M.M. Hills was a place of both historical and mythological significance and drew lakhs of people who walk barefoot crossing the river from distance places to get the darshan of Lord Male Mahadeshwara. This was the second visit of Mr. Bommai to M.M. Hills in recent weeks and the significance could not be overstated as the BJP is trying to make inroads into the vote bank of Dalits, OBCs, and the forest-dwelling tribes in Chamarajanagar district.

The Vijay Sankalpa Yatra was also launched from M.M. Hills which is a testimony to the party's efforts to reach out to the people of the region.

After unveiling the statue, Mr. Bommai also tried to placate the district incharge Minister, V. Somanna, who was apparently cut up with the party leadership. He was also absent when BJP national president J.P. Nadda flagged off the yatra, leading to speculations that Mr. Somanna was set to quit the party. Mr. Bommai said Mr. Somanna was working for the all-round development of Chamarajanagar.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and other dignitaries at the inauguration of the 108-ft statue of Mahadeshwara at M.M. Hills in Chamarajanagar district on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Panchamasali seer meets JD(S) leaders

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Basava Jaya Mrutyunjaya Swami, honorary president of the Panchamasali reservation agitation committee that is demanding reclassification of the Lingayat sub-caste as 2-A, met Janata Dal (Secular) supremo H.D. Deve Gowda and the former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy on Saturday.

The committee had set March 15 as the deadline for the government to concede to their demand.

The Karnataka Backward Classes Commission has announced that its final report on the issue of reclassification, based on which the government will have to take a final call on the demand of Panchamasalis and other communities, is unlikely to be ready soon.

JD(S) supremo H.D. Deve Gowda with Panchamasali seer Basava Jaya Mrutyunjaya Swami in Bengaluru.

BJP now digs out book as 'proof' of 'Vokkaliga killers' of Tipu

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Refusing to back down on the claim that two characters named Uri Gowda and Nanje Gowda had killed Mysuru king Tipu Sultan (who was slain in a war with the British in 1799), the Bharatiya Janata Party on Saturday claimed that a book titled *Suvarna Mandya* provided "proof" for the existence of the two characters.

The BJP had earlier cited *lavanis* (folk narratives) as proof of the existence of the two characters.

At a press meet here, Union Minister of State for Agriculture Shobha Karandlaje claimed that the book *Suvarna Mandya* had references to them and its second edition had been released by the former Prime Minister and JD(S) supremo H.D. Deve Gowda in 2006. "H.D. Kumaraswamy was then the Chief Minister," she said. Both JD(S) and Congress have strongly objected to the narrative of the two characters.

Claiming that the late K. Javare Gowda had spoken about the two characters in the cited book, Ms. Karandlaje sought to know why Mr. Kumaraswamy had not objected to it then.

Meanwhile, Mr. Kumaraswamy demanded to know why the BJP was harping on fictional characters while the pain and suffering of real people and farmers were escaping their attention. "These are fictional characters. They can make films on them and make money. Nothing else can be achieved," he said.

In Mysuru, Congress spokesperson M. Lakshmana called upon the Vokkaligara Sangha leaders to file criminal cases against BJP leaders for defaming the community by projecting the fictitious characters as killers of Tipu Sultan.

FISHERIES & ANIMAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF ODISHA
DIRECTORATE OF FISHERIES, ODISHA, CUTTACK
Website: https://odishafisheries.nic.in , https://dahvs.odisha.gov.in & tendersodisha.gov.in; Phone : 0671-2414061, Email:director.odifish@gmail.com

No. 4495 **CORRIGENDUM** Date : 18.03.2023.

In referring to the RFP No. 3486, dtd. 041.03.2023 for Selection of a Media Consulting Agency for IEC Strategy and Creative Productions, the corrigendum and its pre bid clarification has been webhosted and noticed in the department website and notice for wide circulation. The bidder may visit the website **https://odishafisheries.nic.in, https://dahvs.odisha.gov.in** & **tendersodisha.gov.in** and download the document for reference.

Sd/-
Director of Fisheries

M-90: OIPR-06030/11/0028/2223

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER & BASIN MANAGER, SUBARNAREKHA & BUDHABALANGA BASIN,
AT/PO:- LAXMIPOSI, DIST:-MAYURBHANJ. Mail Id : cebmsbb2019@gmail.com
Government of Odisha "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE
Bid Identification No.- 34/22-23 of CEBM, SBB, Laxmiposi

1	Name of Work	:	Restoration and Protection to left bank of river Gangahar near village Sirakoili, Shrirampur, Gangpura and Muturidei.
2	Estimated Cost	:	Rs.862.03 Lakh
3	Bid Security / E.M.D.	:	Rs.8,62,100/-
4	Period of Completion	:	18 (Eighteen) Calendar Months
5	Class of Contractor	:	"A" Class & "Special" Class
6	Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal	:	20.03.2023 at 10.00 AM
7	Last date / time for receipt of bid in the portal	:	10.04.2023 up to 5.00 PM
8	Name & Address of the O.I.T.	:	Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, O/o the CE&BM, Subarnarekha & Budhabalanga Basin, Laxmiposi, Mayurbhanj

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal "https://tendersodisha.gov.in" .
Chief Engineer & Basin Manager,
Subarnarekha & Budhabalanga Basin, Laxmiposi, Mayurbhanj.
A-1291: OIPR-32074/11/0025/2223

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"- PROCUREMENT NOTICE
WORKS DEPARTMENT
E-mail : ceroads.bbsr@gmail.com
Bid Identification No. CE-DPI & R-44 / 2022-23

1. The Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Road work as mentioned below:
2. Nature of work : **Road works**
3. No. of work : **10 Nos.**
4. Tender Paper Cost : **Rs.10,000.00**
5. Class of Contractor : **'A' Class / Special Class / Super Class**
6. Available of bid document in the website. : From **10.00 A.M. of 24.03.2023** to **05.30 PM of 13.04.2023.**
7. Date of opening of Bid : **Dt.15.04.2023 at 11.30 AM**
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website : **https://tenderodisha.gov.in** . Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha.
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA, NIRMAN SOUDHA, BHUBANESWAR.
B-1360 : OIPR-34111/11/0102/2223

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BIG FURNITURE
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17 - 20 MARCH 2023
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UPTO 70% OFF
LIVING ROOM SET
DINING ROOM SET
WOODEN SOFA SET
BEDROOM SET
OUTDOOR FURNITURE
RECLINER SOFA SET
CONTEMPORARY SOFA SET
OFFICE FURNITURE
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Mar Joseph Powathil

Mar Joseph Powathil passes away

The Hindu Bureau
KOTTAYAM

Archbishop Emeritus Mar Joseph Powathil, former head of the Syro-Malabar Archdiocese of Changanassery, passed away at Changanassery near Kottayam on Saturday. He was 92.

Known for stringent stance in matters relating to the Catholic Church, the Archbishop was a vocal advocate of the cause of farmers and played a key role in establishing the Malanadu, Peerumade, and Kuttanad development committees. He is the first Bishop of the Syro-Malabar Church to be ordained thus by the Pope.

On January 29, 1972, he was nominated Auxiliary Bishop of Changanassery and was consecrated as Bishop by Pope Paul VI on February 13,1972 at a ceremony in Rome.

He served as president of the Catholic Bishops Council of India (CBCI), chairman of the Kerala Catholic Bishops Council, and chairman of Education Commission of the CBCI.

He retired from the episcopal service on January 22, 2007.

Kochi fiasco: NGT Bench imposes ₹100-cr. penalty on Corporation

The civic body has been asked to pay environmental compensation for its continuing neglect of duties resulting in a fire at dumping site in Brahmapuram; amount to be deposited with the Chief Secretary within a month for remediation measures

G. Krishnakumar
KOCHI

The Principal Bench of the National Green Tribunal on Friday imposed an environment compensation of ₹100 crore on the Kochi Corporation for its continuing neglect of duties, resulting in a crisis at its dumping site in Brahmapuram following a major fire on March 2.

The Bench led by chairperson Adarsh Kumar Goel issued an order on Friday directing the civic body to deposit the money with the Chief Secretary within a month for necessary remediation measures and to address the health issues faced by people who had inhaled toxic fumes from the dumping site.

Still on: The blaze from the Brahmapuram waste treatment plant continued in pockets on Saturday. THULASI KAKKAT

Apart from above, "we direct the Chief Secretary, Kerala, to fix accountability of the officers concerned for such gross failures and initiate action under criminal law as well as by way of departmental proceedings following due process and place the same in public domain within two months," it said.

The Bench issued the orders after it took *suo motu* notice of *The Hindu* report "Kochi chokes as fire at waste dump still rages; govt. asks people to stay indoors" published on March 6.

The Bench said the State and its authorities have been utter failure and have rampantly violated the statutory solid waste management rules and orders of the Supreme Court in writ petition 888/1996, Almitra H. Patel vs. Union of India & Others, and various orders of the tribunal since December 2016.

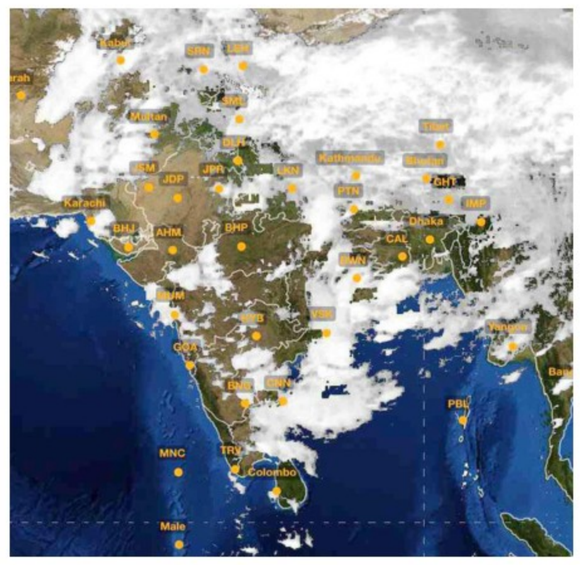
No accountability for such a serious failure has been fixed and no senior person has been held accountable so far. Except for giving future plans, no fixing of accountability is proposed even now and this is a matter of regret. No prosecution has been launched against the guilty for criminal offences under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, it said.

The Bench asked the State Police Chief and the Chief Secretary to uphold the Constitution and the mandate of the environmental law.

Mayor M. Anilkumar said the the Corporation will file an appeal against the NGT verdict.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar and coastal Andhra Pradesh. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over central Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Kerala

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	31.5	20.8	Kozhikode	—	36.2	26.6
Ahmedabad	—	35.5	21.0	Kurnool	—	32.5	22.5
Aizawl	—	22.0	14.9	Lucknow	—	26.9	19.4
Allahabad	—	32.4	17.4	Madurai	—	36.7	25.1
Bengaluru	5.3	31.4	20.0	Mangaluru	—	33.7	23.0
Bhopal	0.8	32.0	18.4	Mumbai	—	31.6	23.0
Bhubaneswar	—	35.6	22.0	Mysuru	—	34.2	19.4
Chandigarh	4	22.1	16.4	New Delhi	2	25.3	18.2
Chennai	65	32.2	23.6	Patna	—	31.4	19.6
Coimbatore	—	35.4	23.6	Port Blair	—	31.6	26.3
Dehradun	25.1	20.2	14.4	Puducherry	—	33.6	25.6
Gangtok	—	17.4	10.6	Pune	—	31.8	18.1
Goa	—	33.4	23.1	Raipur	—	34.0	21.0
Guwahati	3	29.0	18.6	Ranchi	0.8	30.0	16.5
Hubballi	—	34.0	18.0	Shillong	2	19.4	10.6
Hyderabad	1	29.9	20.2	Shimla	1	11.2	8.4
Imphal	0.8	26.1	14.4	Srinagar	1	14.4	6.8
Jaipur	11.7	31.0	16.5	Thiruvananthapuram	1	33.1	25.2
Kochi	3	32.0	25.4	Tiruchi	—	33.9	25.0
Kohima	—	21.0	10.2	Vijayawada	—	32.1	21.5
Kolkata	—	30.5	22.0	Visakhapatnam	—	32.7	23.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	8	—	.28	260	236	
Bengaluru	.24	.33	.66	—	79	
Chennai	.10	.15	.38	40	110	
Delhi	.23	.66	.23	238	161	
Hyderabad	5	.33	.34	60	90	
Kolkata	6	.40	.73	197	129	
Lucknow	.20	.23	.38	260	128	
Mumbai	.29	177	.65	199	154	
Pune	120	180	113	50	44	
Visakhapatnam	.19	.55	.47	89	126	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Dhanbad, Jharkhand recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 350 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Nandesari, Gujarat recorded a healthy AQI score of 10

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Palaniswami files papers for top post in AIADMK

Edappadi K Palaniswami filing his nomination papers for the post of AIADMK's general secretary in Chennai on Saturday. RAGHUNATHAN SR

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

AIADMK interim general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Saturday submitted his nomination for the post of general secretary.

At the party's headquarters here, he handed over the papers to election commissioners Natham R. Viswanathan and Pollachi V. Jayaraman, in the presence of the headquarters' office-bearers, district secretaries, MLAs and former Ministers.

According to a resolution adopted at the general council meeting on July 11, 2022, a candidate for the post of general secretary has to be proposed by secretaries of 10 district units and seconded by an equal number of district secretaries.

Any aspirant should have been in the organisation for 10 years continuously, and should have served as a headquarters office-bearer for at least five years at a stretch.

Among those who proposed Mr. Palaniswami's nomination were Dindigul C. Sreenivasan, K.A. Sengottaiyan, C.Ve. Shanmugam and D. Jayakumar. The seconders included former Ministers O.S. Manian, R.B. Udhayakumar, and Sellur K. Raju, and former MP, N. Balaganga.

Sunday deadline

Nomination papers can be submitted till 3 p.m. on Sunday, according to a schedule issued on Friday evening for the election of the general secretary.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure - Yelahanka Division, 3rd Floor, Mini Vidhana Soudha, Yelahanka, Bengaluru - 560064.

No: EE/RI/YNK/TEND/16/2022-23 Date: 18-03-2023

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

Executive Engineer (Road Infrastructure - Yelahanka Division), BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders for the works detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Project Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Consultancy Services for Construction Supervision, Project Management and Quality Control for the Works of Construction of Grade Separator at Kempegowda Circle Old Yelahanka.	7940.00

Calendar of Events: **1)** RFP Documents may be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 18-03-2023. 2)** Last Date for Receipt of Queries: **21-03-2023 upto 15.00 Hrs. in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure, Yelahanka Division, BBMP. 3)** A Pre Tender Meeting will be held on **21-03-2023 at 16.00 Hrs. in the Office of the Engineer in Chief (Road Infrastructure). 4)** Tenders must be Submitted Online through e-Procurement Portal **on or before 17.30 Hrs. on 24-03-2023. 5)** Technical Bids will be Opened on **27-03-2023 at 16.00 Hrs. in the Office of the Executive Engineer (Road Infrastructure - Yelahanka Division).** Further details can be had from the above office

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Road Infrastructure - Yelahanka Division, BBMP.

Govt of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION KALABURAGI

No:EE/PWD/KD/TS-4/Tender Notification/2022-23/10335 Date: 14-03-2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

1) Name of Work: Executive Engineer PWD Division Kalaburagi Invites tender for the 03 work under KKRDB Micro Head of account through e-portal Indent No. **163912, 163518/call-2 and 166152/call-2,** 2) Estimated Cost: **Min Rs, 47.07 Lakhs, Max. Rs, 1246.69 Lakhs,** 3) Eligibility of Contractor: Class-I, 4) Tender fees and EMD details: Application fees as per e-procurement, EMD Min Rs, 95000.00 Max. Rs, 12,50,000.00, 5) Date of Pre-Bid meeting: **24/03/2023 (11.00 Hrs)**, 6) Last date for queries: **27/03/2023 (17.30 Hrs),** 7) Last date for submission of tender: **28/03/2023 (16.00 Hrs),** 8) Date of opening of Technical Bid : **29/03/2023 (16.30 Hrs),** 9) Date of opening of Financial Bid : **30/03/2023 (16.30 Hrs),** 10) Address for Enquiries & Clarifications: Office of the Executive Engineer PWD Division Kalaburagi, website : **www.e-proc.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/Kalaburagi/1530/MC&A/2022-23

Sd/- Executive Engineer
PWD Division Kalaburagi

Government of Karnataka
(Public Works Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Division: Yadgir.
GSTIN:29BLR002252F1DR

No.EE/PWD/Divn/YDG/TS-1/e-Tender/2022-23/7438, Dated: 14.03.2023

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

1) Details of works:On behalf of Governor of Karnataka as per KTTP Amendment 1999-2000 Act 2000 Standard Bid Document KW-4 Karnataka Public Works Department invites item Rate Tender by Two Cover System Through e-Procurement Portal from Eligible Agency/Contractors for following works Total - 01 No. Under KKRDB Mega Macro for the year 2022-23 Work Indent No.167419, Name of Work: Construction of Government Polytechnic College Building and Providing Basic Amenities at Shorapur Taluka District Yadgir. 2) Estimate Cost: Rs.546.25 Lakhs 3) Contractor Eligible Details:Class-1 & Above 4) Tender Procesing Fee and EMD Details: Tender Fee, EMD & Period as per e-proc,5) Date & Time for of Pre-Bid Meeting: 20.03.2023 (11.30 hrs Onwards) 6) Date & Time for receipt of queries: 21.03.2023 (17.30 hrs) 7) Last Date & Time for submission of the tender in e-procurement portal: 24.03.2023 (16.00 hrs) 8) Date & Time of Opening of the Tender/Technical Bid: 27.03.2023 (16.30 hrs Onwards) 9) Date & Time of Opening of the Financial Bid: 29.03.2023 (11.30 hrs Onwards) 10) For More Details Contact: Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division : Yadgir. 11) Website Address: www.e-proc.karnataka.gov.in
NOTE:Any Corrections / Changes will be updated in the e-Portal only

DIP/Yadagiri/529/K.S.M.C&A/2022-23

SD/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division, Yadgir.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
DISTRICT URBAN DEVELOPMENT CELL
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER AND DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, BELAGAVI DISTRICT, BELAGAVI Telephone no:0831-2407279
E-Mail:dudc_bgm@yahoo.co.in

No: BGM/DUDC/5/CR-25/2021-22 Dated: 17-03-2023

Tender Notification

The Executive Engineer, District Urban Develoment Cell, Belagavi District invites short term tender for Sl.no.01 to 03 works in one cover system using KW-1 & 2 Documents and full term tender for Sl.no.04 & 05 works in two cover system using KW-3&4 Documents for Belagavi District under Chief Minister Amrut Nagarothana (Municipality) Phase-4 Project works as detailed below:- **(Rs. in Lakhs)**

Sl. No	Description of works	Amount Put to Tender (Excluding GST)	Earnest Money Deposit
1	Construction of Toilet near Tahasildhar Ofice Compound, Development of Varde Colony Gardens, Dr. B.R Ambedkar Gar den and Jamboti Circle Hutatma Chowk in TP KHANAPUR limits (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT140669/ Call-3)	13.49	0.34
2	Supply & Erection of Main Pipe line from Malaprabha River Jackwell to Navecha Road in TP KHANAPUR limits (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT140668/Call-5)	22.75	0.46
3	Construction of Pure Drinking Water Units near Bus stand at Ward No.01, near Sangappa Yadavannavar house at Ward No.9, near Unni Basaveshwar Temple at Ward No.13 & near Hanuman Temple in Nashi Tota at Ward No.21 and Supply & Erection of Pipeline from Vithal Temple to Kurade Oni, Sanatippagol Oni & Naduvinkeri Oni at Ward No.03 in TMC MUGALKHOD limits (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT140729/Call-4)	29.25	0.58
4	Construction of Road and Check Dam in TMC KONNUR limits (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT143085)	59.30	1.19
5	Demolish of Old TMC Building and Construction of new Commecial Complex near Bazar, Construction of Bus Shelters at Konnur, Maradimath, Manikwadi & Gokak Falls, Construction of Toilets near Garden at Ward No.06, near Janata Plot at Ward No.14 and Supply & Erection of Sewage Pipeline from Gokak falls toilet no.06 to septic tank no.11, from lalasab temple to toilet no.4 & from septic tank no.03 banger galli to dobighat P.L line Works in TMC KONNUR limits (Tender No.DMA/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT140728)	127.09	1.91

Contractors can download and submit the tenders through e-Procurement portal at www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:

Sl.No.01 to 03	Last Date for submission of tenders	:27-03-2023 up to 17.00 hrs.
	Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids)	:28-03-2023 at 17.01 hrs.
Sl.No.04 & 05	Last Date for submission of tenders	:04-04-2023 up to 17.00 hrs.
	Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids)	:05-04-2023 at 10.01 hrs.

Postponement of calendar of events (if any) is only through e-Procurement portal and will not be published in newspapers.

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-2091/KSMCA/2022-23

Sd/-EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Distirct Urban Development Cell, Belagavi

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Under Taking)
Office of the Executive Engineer KBJNL SBC O&M Division
Khanapur. Tq: Shahapur Dist: Yadgiri Email Id: kbjnleesbc2@gmail.com

NO.KBJNL/SBC/O&M/Divn/Kpur/Tender/B'flank/PB/2022-23/1057&1060 Dated:15-03-2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(ONLY THROUGH ELECTRONIC TENDER SYSTEM)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KBJNL Bangalore, the Executive Engineer KBJNL, SBC O&M Division Khanapur. Tq: Shahapur Dist: Yadgir invites short term percentage tenders in two Cover system from the eligible Contractors for the works mentioned in the table below.

The blank tenders can be obtained through www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and can be submitted through electronic tender box.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE DETAILS OF THE WORKS PUT TO E- TENDERING

1) Work details: Indent No. 24162/CALL-2 & 24167/CALL-2. 2) Amount Put to tender: Indent No. 24162/CALL-2 = Rs.10259.65 Lakhs. Indent No. 24167/CALL-2 = Rs. 7824.58 Lakhs. 3) E.M.D amount put to tender: Indent No. 24162/CALL-2 = Rs. 121.06 Lakhs. Indent No. 24167/CALL-2 = Rs. 92.33 Lakhs. 4) The contractor can have access to the electronic document, i.e Tender Schedules, bid documents and other documents in the website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on payment of tender processing fee (non-refundable). From dated: 15.03.2023 upto dated: 23.03.2023 till 04:00 PM 5) The last date & time for submission of electronic documents through e-portal: On date:23.03.2023 upto 04.00 PM. 6) Date & time for opening of electronic document first (Technical bid) On dated:24.03.2023 @ 05.00 PM. 7) The electronic document second (financial bid) of pre-qualified contractor will opened on On dated: 27.03.2023 @ 05.00 PM or After approval of Technical bid. 8) For more information contact details: Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, SBC O&M Division, Khanapur of Shahapur Taluka, Yadgir Dist. 9) Website: http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in
NOTE: - Further information may be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours or from http:www.eprocurement.Karnataka.gov.in.

DIP/Yadagiri/536/K.S.M.C&A 2022-23

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KBJNL,SBC O&M Division,
Khanapur.

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ
ಸರ್ ಸಿದ್ಧಪ್ಪ ಕಂಬಳಿ ರಸ್ತೆ ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 2213898, 2213888 website : www.hdmc.gov.in

ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಯೋಜನೆ) ಕಛೇರಿ

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

(ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದೇಶ 1999-2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಆಕ್ಟ್ 2000 ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೆಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ-4 ನಿಯಮಗಳನ್ವಯ **ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ** ಮಂಜೂರಾದ ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ತಾಲೂಕು ಅಯೋಧ್ಯ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ರಿ.ಸ.ನಂ. 87 ರ ಕೆಂಪಕೆರೆ ಉದ್ಯಾನವನ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವುದು. (ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. **350.00** ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು) ಇಚ್ಛೆಯುಳ್ಳ ಅರ್ಹ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತರಾದ ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಐಐಂವಾರು Work ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ದ್ವಿ-ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ (Two Electronic Tender System) ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಅಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಂದ ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ, ಸದರಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ / ದಾಖಲೆಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅಂತರ್‌ಜಾಲ ವಿಳಾಸ **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **18/03/2023** ರಿಂದ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

(1) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: **DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT148784** / ಟೆಂ.ಮೊ.ರೂ. **292.61** / ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊ.ರೂ. **4.39** ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು / ಅವಧಿ 06 ತಿಂಗಳು (2) ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆಯನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಯೋಜನೆ) ಹು.ಧಾ.ಮ.ಪಾ ಸರ್. ಸಿದ್ಧಪ್ಪ ಕಂಬಳಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಇವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

- ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕುರಿತು ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **20-03-2023** ರಂದು 16.00.00 ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ
- ಸಂಭಾವ್ಯ ಬಿಡ್‌ದಾರರ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **21-03-2023** ರಂದು 11.00.00 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ
- ಟೆಂಡರ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **24-03-2023** ರಂದು 16.30.00 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
- ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **25-03-2023** ರಂದು 16.30.05 ಘಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ.
- ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **27-03-2023** ರಂದು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಇಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಯಾದ ನಂತರ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು (ಯೋಜನೆ)
ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಧಾ/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/1280/2022-23

From Page One

India suits up for deepest dive yet

Much like the early days of India's space programme, which prioritised public utility over Cold War spurred space races, India's motivations are guided by pragmatism - explore the potential for precious metals and scope marine biodiversity. "India's seabed and the relevant zones with economic potential aren't deeper than 6,000 metres. Our technology and vehicles are designed and developed for our needs," said Dr. Ramadass.

Samudrayaan, or the journey into the sea, and NIOT mission can be conceptualised as the reverse of the forthcoming Gaganyaan mission – The Indian Space Research Organisation's attempt at a manned mission into space.

However, the journey to the ocean depths will likely be "far more comfortable" than a sojourn into space, said a key scientist of the mission.

A dive into the ocean will be a cruise. Ballast tanks on the submersible pull in water from the ocean and the weight gradually sinks the watercraft aided by "trim" tanks that allow more precise manoeuvring. The submersible, oxygenated and equipped with life-support, is capable of floating underwater and collecting soil and rock samples from the seabed with attached robotic arms. "Except for the turbulence of surface waves, the journey down is expected to be much smoother," said Dr. Sathianarayanan, a scientist who manages multiple components of Samudrayaan. Ensconced in a spherical, titanium hull, three navigators – over a fortnight and about 1,500 km away from Kanyakumari – will undertake multiple trips, each lasting about 12 hours.

"Descent and ascent will be eight hours, with four hours of exploration, surveying and scientific activity," he said. "It will be cold inside, but regular warm apparel will suffice. You can eat during descent and ascent, but because you'll be in a 2.1 metre sphere with two others, it may feel claustrophobic and cramped."

At a depth of 6,000 metres, the weight of water would be nearly 600 times that at sea level which make the pressurised hull the most important component of the submersible.

At present, NIOT has made multiple, prototype steel hulls into which personnel can climb into, one at a time, and test the necessary instruments to steer the vehicle. While strong, steel is heavy and the corrosion from marine environments means unsuitable for long-term research. Hence, the material of choice for submersibles globally is titanium alloy.

However, no commercial fabricators in India were capable of fashioning such a titanium hull, until the NIOT found an ally in ISRO.

Two hemispheres of titanium alloy have to be fused to create a single hull becoming thus the only barrier between the inhabitants of the submersible and the crushing water columns. Yet, at the same time, it can be no more than 80 millimetre thick – to be relatively light, manoeuvrable and eke out a few more precious inches of space for the crew.

78 held in action against pro-Khalistan members

In one video, Mr. Amritpal was seen travelling in a vehicle.

His associate can be seen saying that the police were after him. The accused WPD activists are involved in four cases of spreading disharmony among classes, attempted murder, attack on policemen and creating obstructions in the lawful discharge of duties of public servants.

Mr. Amritpal, 30, sprung into the limelight after a mob led by him attacked a police station in Amritsar on February 23 to secure the release of his associate, Lovepreet Singh. He was arrested in an alleged kidnapping-cum-theft case. Six policemen sustained injuries in the incident.

The agencies are conducting investigations to determine if Mr. Amritpal has links with U.K.-based Avtar Singh Khanda, allegedly a close associate of Khalistani "terrorist" Jagtar Singh Tara, and some others operating from overseas. They include International Sikh Youth Federation head Lakhbir Singh Rode, whose brother Jaswant was allegedly in touch with Mr. Amritpal when he was in Dubai.

Invitations posted, Srinagar gears up for G-20 tourism meet

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, is all set to host a working group meeting of tourism delegates from the G-20 nations in the last week of May.

The city is undergoing a major makeover amid a stringent security plan for the high-profile event.

Diplomatic sources said all G-20 nations have received a formal invitation for the meeting, but most of them said it was too early to comment on participation.

It will be interesting to see how Saudi Arabia and Turkey, both members of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the G-20 grouping, react to the invitation.

Last year, Pakistan, which is not a G-20 member, warned against "contemplating any G-20 related meeting or event in J&K", saying it would be "in utter disregard of the globally acknowledged disputed status of the territory".

Modi, Hasina open 131.5-km oil pipeline to Bangladesh

Indian PM says better connectivity will strengthen people-to-people relations; his Bangladesh counterpart expresses thanks for partnership in her country's quest for energy security

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina on Saturday virtually inaugurated the India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline that will bring diesel from Assam's Numaligarh refinery's marketing depot in Siliguri to Parbatipur in northern Bangladesh.

Welcoming the initiative, Ms. Hasina thanked Mr. Modi and the Chief Minister of Assam, Himanta Biswa Sarma, but skipped any mention of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. The omission is being interpreted as a sign of Bangladesh's unhappiness regarding the planned construction of hydel power projects in West Bengal that may divert the waters of the Teesta river and have been in the middle of a stalled negotiation for more than a decade.

Narendra Modi and Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina inaugurating the India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline on Saturday. PIB

The 131.57-km-long pipeline will bring diesel from a marketing depot in Siliguri to Dinajpur of Bangladesh. Ms. Hasina and Mr. Modi had inaugurated the works for laying the pipeline in September 2018.

In her speech, Ms. Hasina thanked India for its partnership in her country's quest for energy security, saying, "Out of the total length of the pipeline, Bangladesh has 126.57 km and India has five kilometres. The pipeline has become operational from today. Many countries in the world are suffering from energy insecurity because of the Russia-Ukraine war, but this pipeline will help our people." She added that at least 16 districts of Bangladesh would benefit from the pipeline.

Mr. Modi praised Ms. Hasina's leadership, and said, "Whether it is in the field of transport, energy, electricity, or digital field, the more our connectivity increases, the more our people-to-people relations will be strengthened.".

Subtle message

The omission of Ms. Banerjee's name is being viewed as a subtle message conveying Dhaka's unhappiness about reports of West Bengal's plans to construct hydel power projects and canals near Darjeeling to irrigate agricultural fields in Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar that may divert the Teesta's waters.

Seheli Sabrin, spokesperson of the Foreign Ministry of Bangladesh, had said on Thursday that Dhaka may raise the issue at the UN Water Conference in New York. The water issue is also significant for Ms. Hasina, who is poised to face a general election this year where her government's inability to get the waters of the Teesta may make her a target of attack from her Opposition, led by the Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

NIA files fifth case against PFI and its functionaries

Devesh K. Pandey
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed the fifth chargesheet against the now-banned Popular Front of India (PFI) and 19 activists, including 12 members of its national executive committee (NEC).

The agency has also frozen 77 bank accounts linked to the outfit and the accused. The agency has unearthed a trail of funding by the PFI allegedly for its terror operatives and weapons trainers, both in cash and via regular bank transfers, in the guise of salary payments. "In the chargesheets, 105 accused persons have been named so far," an official said.

"All these PFI trainers have been arrested in cases registered either by the NIA or different State police forces... the crackdown on bank accounts took place across India, including Guwahati, Sundipur [West Bengal], Imphal, Kozhikode, Chennai, New Delhi, Jaipur, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Kurnool [Andhra Pradesh]," the official said.

Among those arraigned are O.M.A. Salam, E.M. Abdul Rahiman, Anis Ahmed, Afsar Pasha, V.P. Nazaruddin, E. Abubacker, P. Koya, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, Abdul Wahid Sait, A.S. Ismail, Md. Yusuf, Basheer, Shafeer K.P., Jaseer K.P., Shahid Nasir, Waseem Ahmed, Shakif, Farooq Ur Rahman and Yasar Arafat.

The NIA alleges there was a conspiracy to divide the country on communal lines, with the ultimate objective of overthrowing "the existing system of secular and democratic governance in India" and replacing "it with an Islamic Caliphate, along with Shariah/Islamic law".

The NIA had filed the case *suo motu* after the Uttar Pradesh anti-terror squad arrested PFI cadres Anshad Badruddin and Firoz Khan in 2021 for allegedly planning to trigger blasts on Basant Panchami.

Who is responsible for security lapse in J&K, asks Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

An alleged conman from Gujarat posed as an officer in the PMO and got Z-plus security in J&K

The Congress on Saturday questioned the Narendra Modi government for the security lapse in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) where a conman from Gujarat went around identifying himself as an official from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

Kiran Bhai Patel from Gujarat was arrested by the J&K Police on March 3 from a five-star hotel in Srinagar for posing as an additional secretary in the PMO and taking Z-plus security cover, besides other hospitality. Three cases were registered against him in his home State, the police said on Friday.

Terming it a very serious matter, Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera said the government was not focused on such matters as it was "busy protecting the Prime Minister's best friend". "If anyone asks questions to the Modi government, he is anti-national. Which national interest are you serving? If you are at least a little serious about the security of the nation, then tell me that at the political level who will resign in this matter," Mr. Khera asked.

Three questions

"Our three essential questions are – can a PMO officer get Z+ security, should Z+ security be given and is Z+ security availed so easily. It is very important to know from which level the instructions to give security to a thug came," he added.

Mr. Khera said if a person could roam around in sensitive areas by making a PMO card, then the episode raised questions over the government's intelligence mechanism.

Conman Kiran Patel, now in custody in J&K, cheated many in Gujarat too: police

Mahesh Langa
AHMEDABAD

Kiran Patel, who has been arrested by the Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Police for allegedly impersonating being a top ranking official of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), has apparently cheated many people in Gujarat, promising them government contracts or clearances.

After his arrest, several people went public accusing him of cheating and fraud in Ahmedabad, Vadodara and north Gujarat.

He has allegedly duped several people of more than ₹5 crore, according to the cheating cases registered in Ahmedabad, Vadodara and other places.

Now, the Gujarat Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) has reportedly joined the probe along with the J&K Police to investigate how he operated his network and who helped him in giving him access to the officials and functionaries in the government.

An undated photo of Kiran Patel, who has been arrested for cheating and forgery. PTI

In Gujarat, he faces multiple cases of cheating, criminal breach of trust and criminal conspiracy but has reportedly faced no police action. In 2017, he had even allegedly duped a policeman's relative of ₹1 crore while posing as an official of the PMO. In January this year, he is said to have organised an event related to G-20 at a five-star hotel in Gujarat that saw the participation of several retired bureaucrats.

After the news of his arrest became public, his wife Malini Patel told pressperson that her husband was innocent and did no wrong, and insisted that his arrest was some "conspiracy". "He had gone there for development work. He cannot do anything wrong. He is an engineer and wanted to contribute to the development of J&K," Malini Patel was quoted as saying by the local dailies.

Interestingly, he used to post videos and pictures of his visit to various parts of J&K and other activities in Gujarat and elsewhere.

Court frames charges in Ankita murder case

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Kotdwar Sessions Court in Pauri Garhwal district of Uttarakhand on Saturday framed charges against the three accused, including Pulkit Arya, in the Ankita Bhandari murder case.

The court framed charges against Arya, son of a former State BJP Minister, under Sections 302 (murder), 201 (suppression of evidence) and 354 (A) (molestation and outraging modesty) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Section 5(1)(d) of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act. His friends, Saurabh Bhaskar and Ankit Gupta, were charged under Sections 302, 201 of the IPC and the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act.

"The court rejected the bail application of Ankit and Pulkit. Bhaskar's bail plea was also rejected," government counsel Jitendra Rawat said. The next hearing is on March 28.

ED case recounts misery of victims in Chinese loan app case

Devesh K. Pandey
NEW DELHI

In dire need of money, Vaishali (name changed) installed the 'Kissht' app on her mobile phone on July 23, 2020. Having allowed access to her phone data and furnished the details of her PAN, Aadhaar and bank account, she borrowed a meagre sum of about ₹4,500 through the micro-loan digital platform.

However, Ms. Vaishali did not receive the full loan amount as a "processing fee" was deducted. She soon landed in a debt trap. In order to pay back the demanded sum, she was forced to take loans from other similar apps, such as 'Money Box', 'Loan Gram', 'My Bank', 'Coco Cash', 'Cashpot', 'Need Rupee' and 'Panda Rupee'.

"...she stated that in spite of paying the full amount, some unknown persons representing the apps started threatening her to pay the extra amount. They also used obscene words and intimidated her through phone calls, SMS messages, WhatsApp, etc. to have sexual intercourse with them," alleges the Enforcement Directorate (ED), which has charged seven entities and five individuals in the "Chinese loan app" case.

According to a case registered by the ED, many people landed in a debt trap after borrowing from Chinese apps. GETTY IMAGES

The accused would also threaten to upload the victim's photos on "adult" websites. When she ignored the threats, her images with her contact number were circulated in a WhatsApp group created by using her contact list.

In another case, one Iqbal took loans from several apps to clear the previous debt. The terms and conditions were modified while sanctioning the loan such that the duration was reduced from 92 to seven days. He received messages that his Aadhaar and PAN would be blocked. His relatives were threatened and his photographs bearing words such as "*Chor*" (thief) and "Fraud customer" were circulated. His women contacts were targeted and sent obscene messages.

Explaining the *modus operandi*, the ED alleged that the apps usually deducted 30% to 40% of the loan amount as processing fee. "A perusal of sample loan sanction letters by [accused] X10 Financial Service in collaboration with [accused] Mad Elephant Network Technologies revealed that the effective interest rate...comes to 2,233% per annum," an official said.

Quoting a report by the Bengaluru Police, the ED said owners of the apps were front-end Indian entities, for which investigations came from Chinese citizens. They entered into agreements with non-bank financial companies for giving out loans. Each entity had floated several apps that were installed, accessed, used and monitored from cloud-based servers in China.

Among those charged by the ED are "Chinese controlled" Mad Elephant, Baryonyx Technology and Cloud Atlas Future Technology. Three NBFCs, identified as X10 Financial Services, Track Fin-ed and Jamnadas Morarjee Finance, besides payment gateway Razorpay Software, have also been listed. Mad Elephant was represented by its directors Vidyavati Dhami and Chinese national Yan Peng Qu.

A look-out circular has been opened against fugitive Qu. In her statement to the agency, Ms. Dhami allegedly said that she had joined as an HR manager. She was also made a director in YOYO Cash Technology, registered in October 2020. The same year, without any appointment letter, she was told to operate as a director of Mad Elephant by a woman called "Ms. Jin", who was from a Hong Kong-based parent company, Rumming Tech.

Ms. Dhami allegedly told the ED that YOYO cash and Mad Elephant operated as service providers to X10 Financial Services and that Mad Elephant helped in loan recovery, provided new borrowers and their KYC (know your customer) documents.

She said Ms. Jin and Qu, who went back to China in November 2020, managed the companies from there. Call centres, with about 250 employees, had been set up in India to deal with the borrowers.

The accused NBFCs would receive their share, ranging from 0.4% to 1.5% of the total disbursement, or a minimum commitment on a monthly basis, of the amount specified in the agreements, whichever was higher.

As alleged by the ED, in the case of X10 Financial Services-Mad Elephant, loans totalling ₹306.97 crore were sanctioned on an investment of about ₹9.74 crore and ₹89.95 crore was earned, while bad debts amounted to ₹38.05 crore.

Centre resorting to distortion; no going back on JPC demand: Cong.

Jairam Ramesh says the government is rattled by the coming together of 16 Opposition parties to demand a parliamentary probe into the Adani issue; he says there is no question of an apology from Rahul Gandhi for his speech made in the U.K.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress's Chief Whip in the Rajya Sabha and general secretary (communication), Jairam Ramesh, on Saturday said he did not see a "middle path" to end the logjam in Parliament as the Opposition's demand for a joint parliamentary committee (JPC) investigation into the Adani issue was "non-negotiable" and there was no question of a apology from Rahul Gandhi for his "democracy under attack" remark.

In an interview with the news agency Press Trust of India on Saturday, Mr. Ramesh claimed that the government was rattled by 16 Opposition parties coming together to demand a JPC on the Adani issue and was resorting to a "3D orchestrated campaign – distort, defame and divert".

> Is it not obvious that any committee other than a JPC, whatever its merits, will be reduced to an exercise in legitimation and exoneration?
>
> **JAIRAM RAMESH**
> Congress communication chief

"I don't see any middle path because our demand for a JPC is non-negotiable and the question of an apology does not arise," Mr. Ramesh said when asked if a middle ground can be found to ensure that Parliament functions from Monday.

His comments come a day after Home Minister Amit Shah said the ongoing stand-off in Parliament could be broken as the government would go "two steps ahead" if the Opposition took "two steps forward".

The Congress leader dismissed the BJP's charge of Mr. Gandhi seeking intervention of foreign countries as "absolute nonsense", and asserted that whatever was said by the former Congress chief in the United Kingdom was a matter of record with its videos and transcripts available. "He [Mr. Gandhi] said, 'India's problems have to be solved internally through the electoral process, these are internal issues.' But he also said democracy in India is a public good and if India is democratic, not only India benefits but the world also benefits," Mr. Ramesh said.

Mr. Ramesh also countered the Home Minister's remarks that anyone who has anything to say about the Adani issue can approach the committee set up by the Supreme Court.

He said the mandate of the SC-appointed panel was to provide an overall assessment of the situation including the relevant causal factors which have led to the volatility in the securities market in the recent past.

"Is it not obvious that any committee other than a JPC, whatever its merits, will be reduced to an exercise in legitimation and exoneration?" he added.

Recruitment proposal for Eklavya schools leaves existing teachers in a bind

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

As the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs looks to finalise the recruitment rules for hiring over 38,000 teachers and support staff for 740 Eklavya Model Residential Schools across the country, the jobs of around 4,000 teachers are hanging by a thread – teachers who are already working at nearly 400 of these schools – with the Union government having calculated the staff requirement without considering those already working in these schools.

While the Union government has a target of finishing a total of 740 such schools by 2025-26, currently, just 401 of them are functional and are facing a significant teacher shortage. At these schools, there are nearly 4,000 teaching staff, which include principals, postgraduate teachers, and trained graduate teachers.

According to guidelines issued by the National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS), each school is meant to have at least 26 teaching staff, translating to 10,426 teaching staff for 401 schools.

Status check: Currently, 401 Eklavya Model Residential Schools are functional. MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

Problem of shortage

To address the teacher shortage, which was being caused in part by the variation in recruitment rules across the States and Union Territories, the Union government decided to directly start recruiting teachers for these schools in 2022. The announcement was made by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her Budget speech.

However, according to statements submitted before a Parliamentary Standing Committee, the Union government's calculation for the staff requirement did not consider the existing teachers at the functional schools. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs had told the House panel that it had arrived at the 38,000 figure based on the NESTS guidelines, which prescribe 52 staffers for each of the 740 schools (26 teaching staff and 26 non-teaching staff).

Senior Ministry officials said that with this recruitment set to start by the next fiscal year, the most at-risk would be contractual teachers, who make up over 58% of the current teaching staff. They would be followed by those on deputation from the respective State governments, who number a little over 12% of existing teachers.

The teachers on deputation said that they did not have much to lose as they could just go back to the State Education Department and get posted to government schools. But guest teachers and those on contract have said they are worried about their positions and wonder if they will get priority during the fresh round of recruitment.

New rules

"We are also not sure what will happen to the ones who were permanently appointed by following the old recruitment rules. These teachers were hired by following all rules and the government might have to consider absorbing them into the new recruits," a senior Ministry official said, however, adding that those who are let go will have a chance to apply under the new recruitment rules.

The new recruitment rules will standardise educational qualifications for applying to teaching positions across these schools, prescribe reservation rules as per the Union government's regulations (including for EWS), and set out age bars for all available positions. The government has said that it intends to recruit around 8,000 to 10,000 staffers every year for the next three years to achieve its target.

Panchayat polls in West Bengal to be litmus test for Trinamool's support among minorities

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

Are the minority voters in West Bengal shifting away from the Trinamool Congress? This is the question that is being asked in political circles of West Bengal since March 3, when the results of the Sagardighi byelection took political parties by surprise.

On Friday, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee touched on the issue, and assured her party leadership that minorities continued to be with the party and the electoral loss at Sagardighi was because of the party's "internal weakness", which included a number of issues such as candidate selection.

During the closed-door meeting at Kalighat, Ms. Banerjee reprimanded Jangipur Lok Sabha MP Khalilur Rahman and Murshidabad MP Abu Taher Khan, saying that they had not performed the work assigned to them.

The Chief Minister also came down heavily on party minority cell chief Hazi Nurul Islam and replaced

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee takes several course correction steps after the loss in the Sagardighi bypoll

him with Itahar MLA Mosaraf Hossain. Ms. Banerjee chided Mr. Islam for not making enough trips to the districts. Trinamool candidate Debasish Bhattacharya was defeated by Congress candidate Bayron Biswas at Sagardighi by a margin of 22,968 votes.

During the high-level meeting on Friday, the State's Library Minister and key minority leader, Siddiqullah Chowdhury, also came up with the report on the Sagardighi debacle. Ms. Banerjee had set up the committee to draw up the report.

The attempts at a course correction, particularly in the context of minority votes, is being made ahead of the panchayat polls in the State.

The panchayat polls would be the last major litmus test for all the political parties ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

While the dates of the panchayat polls are yet to be announced, under the three-tier panchayat system in the State, polling will be held across 825 seats spread across 20 zilla parishads, 9,217 panchayat samitis, and 48,649 gram panchayats.

The Trinamool Congress leadership has also started appointing senior leaders and Ministers as 'observers' to districts, ahead of the panchayat polls.

Some retired judges are part of anti-India gang: Law Minister

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Law Minister Kiren Rijiju on Saturday described a few retired judges and some activists as part of an "anti-India gang" and accused them of trying to make the judiciary play the role of Opposition parties.

Mr Rijiju, who spoke at an event organised by the magazine *India Today*, criticised the Collegium system and called it a result of "Congress misadventure and judicial overreach".

The Minister said that at a recent seminar in Delhi, where some retired Supreme Court judges and some senior lawyers were present, the topic was accountability in judges' appointment. "But the discussion the whole day was how the government is taking over the judiciary," he said.

"It is a few of the retired judges – maybe three or four – a few of those activists, part of the anti-India gang, these people are trying to make Indian judici-

Kiren Rijiju

ary play the role of the Opposition party," Mr Rijiju added. Asserting that he shares an excellent relationship with the judiciary and that it is neutral, the Law Minister said, "Some people also go to the court and say please rein in the government, please change the policy of the government. These people want the judiciary to play the role of the Opposition party, which cannot happen."

"A Law Minister talking like an Outlaw. A Minister of Justice propagating Injustice. If this is not a threat to freedom AFTER speech what is?" asked Congress leader Jairam Ramesh on Twitter.

Collegium system not perfect but is the best available: CJI

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Not every system is perfect but this is the best system developed by the judiciary, Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud said on Saturday, while defending the Collegium system of appointing judges, a major bone of contention between the government and judiciary.

Speaking at an event organised by the magazine *India Today*, the CJI said the object of the Collegium system was to maintain independence and that could be done by insulating it from outside influence.

"As the Chief Justice, I have to take the system as it is given to us... I am not saying every system is perfect but this is the best system we have developed. The object of this system was to maintain independence, which is a cardinal value. We have to insulate the judiciary from outside influences if the judiciary has to be independent.

CJI D.Y. Chandrachud

That is the underlying feature of Collegium," Mr. Chandrachud said.

The CJI also responded to Law Minister Kiren Rijiju voicing displeasure over the Supreme Court Collegium revealing the government's reasons for not approving the names recommended by it for appointment as judges of constitutional courts.

"He has a perception. I have a perception and there is bound to be a difference of perceptions ... I do not want to join issue with the Law Minister for his perception. I respect his perception and I am sure he has respect for ours as well," he added.

Maharashtra farmers call off march to Mumbai

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Farmers from Nashik in Maharashtra on Saturday called off their march to Mumbai, after talks were held with the State government on their demands.

The march, spearheaded by the Communist Party of India (Marxist), sought to draw the government's attention to better support price for onions, 12-hour uninterrupted power supply to farmers, and the waiver of farm loans. Talks were held with Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and his deputy Devendra Fadnavis a few days ago.

CPI(M) MLA Vinod Nikole announced the decision to call off the march that started from Dindori town, located around 195 km from the State capital, on March 12. The march had reached Thane's Vasind, around 80 km from Mumbai.

The protesting leaders said that the Shinde-Fadnavis government had taken all their demands into consideration in the State Assembly, and ground-level officers had received orders for the execution of government orders.

Mr. Shinde had said on Friday that onion cultivators would be given a financial relief of ₹350 a quintal and had appealed to farmers to call off the protest.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : RT 98 & 99/22-23/SE/PHC/PKD, JAL JEEVAN MISSION 1) Design, construction of 4MLD WTP, supplying distribution and Providing 2698 FHTCs, supply and erection of raw/new clear water pump sets & 160 KVA transformer, Supplying,and maintenance of raw water pumping main & clear water pumping, construction of the compound wall, maintenance of raw water pump house, gardening, road restoration in Lakkidi Peroor GP 2) WSS to Pudussery panchayath Design, Construction and maintenance of 5MLD WTP, 2 LL OHSR at WTP compound, 3 LL OHSR at Walayar, Raw water Booster station near KINFRA, supplying, and maintenance of Raw Water Pumping Main, Clear Water Pumping Mains to OHSRs including laying along NH 544 by HDD method, distribution systems with providing FHTCs 3750 Nos including surveying and distribution network design, Supply and erection of RW Booster pump and CW Pump sets including Rail Way line crossing by HDD method. **EMD :** Rs. 500000 each, **Tender fee :** Rs. 16540 each **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 01-04-2023 03:00:pm, **Phone : 04912544927,**
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
KWA-JB-GL-6-1873-2022-23 Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Palakkad

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : Re-129,Re-130,Re-131,Re-132,Re-133, JJM - 2022-23-Providing FHTC to Rural Households in Vannappuram, Kanjikkuzhy, Edamalakkudi Panchayaths in Idukki District. **EMD :** Rs. 50000-500000, **Tender fee :** Rs. 5515 -16540, **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 01-04-2023 04:00:pm, **Phone : 04852835637,**
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Superintending Engineer,
KWA-JB-GL-6-1876-2022-23 PH Circle, Muvattupuzha

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER
PHED REGION I JODHPUR
Tele-0291-2651750 E-Mail:rj_acejo@nic.in
No.ACE/Region I/Ju/Ar. Distt./2022-23/14267-286 Dated 08/03/2023

Notice Inviting Bid

Bids for work of **"Work of Augumentation of 01 Village (RWSS BALESAR SATTA) of Block Balesar to provide FHTC including one year Defect Liability period and over the system to VWHSC of village under JJM"** are invited from interested bidders upto 6.00 pm (time) 28.03.2023 (date). Other particular of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state, and PHED department website.

(Dinesh Kumar Nagori)
UBN No- PHE2223WSOB14365 ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER
DIPR/C/3765 PHED REGION (I) JODHPUR

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*This is applicable to all Open (Domestic / Global) Tenders issued through e-procurement portal of CIL.

राजस्थान पशु चिकित्सा और पशु विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय, बीकानेर
ई–निविदा (दर संविदा) आमंत्रण सूचना सं0 03/2022–23
(क्रमांक 667 दिनांक 02.03.2023)

इस विश्वविद्यालय एवं इससे सम्बद्ध राजस्थान में स्थित विभिन्न इकाईयों में विभिन्न प्रकार के कार्यो का निष्पादन हेतु सेवाप्रदाता के माध्यम से मानव संसाधन उपलब्ध करवाने हेतु ऑन लाईन ई– निविदा दो कवर बिड (तकनीकी व वित्तीय बिड) में मान्यता प्राप्त सेवाप्रदातों, जो श्रम विभाग,राजस्थान, EPF,ESI एवं जीएसटी विभाग में पंजीकृत हो, से आंमत्रित की जाती है। निविदा की अनुमानित लागत (वार्षिक) रू0. 8.40 करोड़ है। दिनांक 04.03.2023 से 25.03.2023 को सांय 5.00 बजे तक ऑनलाईन निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड कर www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर डी.एस.सी. के माध्यम से अपलोड कर सकते है। ई–निविदा का **UBN No. VAU2223SLRC00178** का विस्तृत विवरण वेब साईट www.rajuvas.org, http:/sppp.raj.nic.in एवं www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है ।
राज.संवाद / सी / 22 / 16292 वित्त नियंत्रक

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL ENGINEER (PPP)
PWD RAJASTHAN JAIPUR
No.F.7(835)SHA/PPP/ADB/T-2/AEO&M/EPC/01&04/2022-23/D2467
Date: 8/3/23

Notice inviting Bid (45/2022-23)

Bids for consultancy Services to act as Authority's Engineer under Operation and Maintenance period for "Jodhpur - Sojat Section of SH-58 (Length 75.91 km), Bhinmal Pantheri- Posana- Jeevana of SH-31A (length 51.58); and Siwana-Samdari-Balesar Road SH-66 (Length 90.648 km) total length 218.138 km in the State of Rajasthan on Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) Mode" (Package: RSHIP/ADB/T-2/AE O&M/EPC/1&4) are invited from interested bidders from 27.03.2023 and upto 11:00 AM on 10.04.2023. Other particulars of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, htpp://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state; and department website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 2.29 Crore.

(Avinash Sharma)
UBN : PWD 2223SLOB18139 Addl. Chief Engineer (PPP)
DIPR/C/3815 PWD Rajasthan Jaipur

राजस्थान खादी तथा ग्रामोद्योग बोर्ड, जयपुर
(राजस्थान सरकार का उपक्रम)
गोकुलभाई भट्ट स्मृति भवन, जवाहर लाल नेहरू मार्ग, बजाज नगर, जयपुर – 302017
Ph.No.0141-2705197-200, Fax No.0141-2706510
Website: www.rajkhadi.org , Email : khadijpr@yahoo.co.in

क्रमांक :– रा.खा.ग्रा.बो. / स्टोर / 2022–23 / 227 दिनांक:– 17.03.2023

नीलामी सूचना

राजस्थान खादी तथा ग्रामोद्योग बोर्ड, जयपुर द्वारा प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र, पुष्कर (अजमेर) के पुराने अनुपयोगी, अप्रचलित, विभाग में उपयोग में लिए गये फर्नीचर, उपकरण एवं अन्य अनुपयोगी सामान आदि की नीलामी का आयोजन निम्नांकित तालिका अनुसार रखा गया है नीलामी की शर्तों का अवलोकन किसी भी कार्य दिवस में कार्यालय में अथवा http://sppp.raj.nic.in वेबसाईट पर किया जा सकता है।

निविदा

क्र. सं.	नीलामी सामग्री विवरण	पुस्तक मुल्य (राशि लाखों में)	अरनेस्ट मनी 2 प्रतिशत (राशि रूपयों में)	नीलामी स्थल	नीलामी की दिनांक व समय
1	पुराने अनुपयोगी, अप्रचलित एवं उपयोग में लिये गये फर्नीचर एवं अन्य अनुपयोगी सामान	32.13	64260	प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र पुष्कर अजमेर	10.04.2023 12:00 बजे

UBN No. :- KVI2223SLRC0016
राज.संवाद / सी / 22 / 16349 सचिव

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL ENGINEER (PPP)
PWD RAJASTHAN JAIPUR
No.F.7(835)SHA/PPP/ADB/T-2/AEO&M/EPC/01&04/2022-23/D2467
Date: 8/3/23

Notice inviting Bid (45/2022-23)

Bids for consultancy Services to act as Authority's Engineer under Operation and Maintenance period for "Jodhpur - Sojat Section of SH-58 (Length 75.91 km), Bhinmal Pantheri- Posana- Jeevana of SH-31A (length 51.58); and Siwana-Samdari-Balesar Road SH-66 (Length 90.648 km) total length 218.138 km in the State of Rajasthan on Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) Mode" (Package: RSHIP/ADB/T-2/AE O&M/EPC/1&4) are invited from interested bidders from 27.03.2023 and upto 11:00 AM on 10.04.2023. Other particulars of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, htpp://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state; and department website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 2.29 Crore.

(Avinash Sharma)
UBN : PWD 2223SLOB18139 Addl. Chief Engineer (PPP)
DIPR/C/3815 PWD Rajasthan Jaipur

1.2 Abridged NIB No. (Code) WSC2223A0456
SE CUM PROJECT MANAGER, WCDC, WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT & SOIL CONSERVATION, CHURU
E-mail ID: SEWDSC.CHURU@RAJASTHAN.GOV.IN
No.F3()/SE/WCDC/Churu/Tender/22-23/6859-65 Date:- 09.03.2023

NOTICE INVITING BID
NIB No WSC2223A0456 YEAR 2022-23

Bids for PMKSY-2.0 (NRM) works under 05 package with estimated value INR shown as under against UBN Nos are invited from interested bidders up to 6.00 P.M., 24-02-2023. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in or https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in/) of the state, and watershed.rajasthan.gov.in departmental website.

UBN No. WSC2223WSOB00729 -289.24 Lacs
UBN No. WSC2223WSOB00730 -288.90 Lacs
UBN No. WSC2223WSOB00731 -281.90 Lacs
UBN No. WSC2223WSOB00732 -288.97 Lacs
UBN No. WSC2223WSOB00733 -287.24 Lacs

(Anand Singh Gehlot)
SE CUM PM, WCDC,
DIPR/C/3685 WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT & SOIL CONSERVATION, CHURU

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR HOTEL MANAGEMENT AND CATERING TECHNOLOGY
(An Autonomous Body under Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India)
A-34, Sector 62, NOIDA-201309 (UP) Website: www.nchm.gov.in

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Director (A&F)
As the seats are limited, apply immediately
For enquiry call 18001803151 (10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.) or email at nchmctadmn@gmail.com / jeenchm@gmail.com

INBRIEF

With 843 fresh infections, COVID-19 cases surge in India

India reported over 800 COVID-19 cases in the past 24 hours, according to the latest government data released by the Health Ministry on Saturday. This is the highest single-day case surge in the past four months. With 843 fresh infections, the total number of active cases in India rose to 5,839. Jharkhand and Maharashtra reported one death each. Amid rise in COVID-19 cases, the Union government had earlier this week asked six States to take measures to contain the virus.

Owaisi flays Nitish Kumar for 'making BJP stronger' in Bihar

All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) leader Asaduddin Owaisi on Saturday attacked Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and blamed him for making the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) stronger in the State. The Hyderabad MP made the statement while addressing a public meeting in Purnea district of the Seemanchal region. He is on two-day visit to Bihar to launch *Adhikar Yatra* ahead of the Lok Sabha election due next year. He also alleged that Mr. Kumar had always cheated the people, and stressed that the latter could go back to the BJP anytime. Both the BJP and the *Mahagatbandhan* parties had launched their election campaign earlier in the region. The BJP is trying to make inroads into the region.

Karni Sena activists disrupt rapper's concert in Indore

Activists of the Karni Sena created a ruckus at rapper MC Stan's concert in Indore and halted the show halfway alleging that he used foul language in his songs, which polluted young minds. According to eyewitnesses, the concert organised at a hotel in the Lasudia area on Friday was halted, upsetting fans of the rapper. The police had to use mild force to clear the unrelenting protesters. Karni Sena's district unit president Anurag Pratap Singh Raghav on Saturday said, Stan used foul language and sang songs containing obscenities in front of the young audience during his performance, following which Karni Sena activists took charge of the show, forcing him to leave the venue. PTI

Panel to look into Rajasthani as second official language

In a much-awaited move, the Congress government in Rajasthan has appointed a committee to consider declaring Rajasthani the second official language of the State. The committee will study the model of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand for recognition of their native languages, and submit a report on the line of action taken in those States. At present, Hindi written in Devanagri script is recognised as the official language under the Rajasthan Official Language Act, 1956. The government's action follows a prolonged movement, spearheaded mainly by the Rajasthani Yuva Samiti, which had raised the demand for the introduction of a Bill on the subject in the Assembly's Budget Session.

SUDOKU

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	2		4	8				5
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5				3	9		4	
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

9	4	2	7	1	5	6	8	3
7	3	6	2	8	4	9	1	5
1	5	8	9	3	6	7	2	4
4	1	7	3	2	8	5	6	9
3	6	9	5	4	1	2	7	8
8	2	5	6	7	9	3	4	1
6	8	3	1	9	2	4	5	7
2	9	4	8	5	7	1	3	6
5	7	1	4	6	3	8	9	2

Telcos and the return of the Net neutrality debate

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Since November 2022, the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), which represents Bharti Airtel, Vodafone Idea, and Reliance Jio, the three major telecom operators in India, has been demanding that platforms such as YouTube and WhatsApp pay a share of revenue as network costs. This has reignited the debate around Net neutrality.

In an immediate response to the demand, the Broadband India Forum (BIF), which represents Internet firms such as Meta and Google, wrote a letter to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) rebutting the COAI's demands.

"This concept of paying for the use of infrastructure is an excellent concept wherein any entity that uses another entity's infrastructure should pay for it," Debashish Bhattacharya, senior deputy director of BIF, wrote. "However, the revenues earned by the infra provider [telecom operators] should also be shared with the entity using it in the same proportion."

Mr. Bhattacharya also hit out at the apparent claim by the telecom operators that content providers do not build any of this infrastructure on their own. "The infrastructure for any communication network also includes data centres, undersea cables, content hosting centres, content delivery networks (CDNs) and so on – all of which are built by the OTT platforms," he said.

In 2016, Internet activists celebrated as the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) ruled in favour of Net neutrality, the concept that all traffic on an Internet network has to be treated equally.

The telecom regulator capped a highly publicised debate on the subject, and concluded that programmes such as Free Basics by Facebook (now Meta) and telecom operators' plans to charge extra for data calls using apps such as Viber would be prohibited, as all Internet access had to be priced equally.

The Department of Telecommunications in 2018 embedded the Net neutrality concept into the Unified Licence, whose conditions all telecom operators and Internet providers are bound by.

Fresh demand: Net neutrality is the concept that all traffic on an Internet network has to be treated equally. GETTY IMAGES

The case for a fee

The COAI's argument is that its current demand has nothing to do with Net neutrality. "There seems to be [a] lack of appreciation of the fact that Net neutrality pertains to non-discriminatory treatment of content which has no nexus to the usage fee issue," the COAI argued in a press note on February 27.

"We reiterate that all our member TSPs [telecommunication service providers] are committed to follow the Net neutrality principles as per their licensing conditions," Lt. Gen. S.P. Kochhar (retd), Director-General of COAI, said.

However, last Monday, Amrita Choudhury, director, CCAOI, a cyber advocacy-focused public policy entity, wrote, "Charging a network fee will break the core essence of an open Internet."

Telecom operators and platforms support "each other's growth, and neither can exist without the other".

Ms. Choudhury argued that instead of this, the government could reduce spectrum fees and support telecom companies with the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

Net neutrality activists (as well as content providers) have argued that imposing such a fee, even on a limited number of large players, was a distortion of the Internet's architecture, where content providers and telecom operators enjoy a symbiotic relationship without charging each other, and users pay both, in the form of fees or advertisements, or both.

The debate takes us back a decade, when the usage fee demand was made in India by Airtel's CEO Sunil Bharti Mittal, who termed the proposal an "Internet tax" in 2013, complaining that content providers were "consuming a massive amount of resources on our network", and that "somebody's got to pay for that".

Usage on networks

In essence, telecom operators have gone from demanding payment to manage scarce resources on their networks, to demanding payment for enormous usage on their networks.

Telecom operators in the European Union are also demanding similar usage fees from content providers. The Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), a prominent Internet rights advocacy group in the U.S., warned against such moves.

"Fundamentally network usage fees are a ploy by the largest ISPs to extract monopolistic rents, kill competition, and further entrench their monopolistic power," the EFF said in a blog post in December. "...The costs ISPs incur for delivering traffic have not been drastically rising despite increases in traffic."

The EU is holding consultations on the issue this year before it finalises its stand. Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw indicated that the Union government would wait and see what the international moves in this space are before making a call on the telcos' demands. "Telecom is an industry where everything is benchmarked to the world," Mr. Vaishnaw said in February. "Whatever we do will be in sync with the global trends."

Millets can be a solution for food, nutrition crisis: Modi

Prime Minister inaugurates the Global Millets Conference, which will see participation from several countries, with sessions to build awareness of coarse grains among various stakeholders

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Global Millets Conference here on Monday, and said that coarse grains, locally named *Shree Anna*, can be a solution for the problem of food and nutritional security faced by the world.

A Ministerial round table on millets was also held here with the participation of Ministers and officials from 10 countries, including India. The two-day conference will have sessions on promotion and awareness of millets among producers, consumers and other stakeholders.

Mr. Modi said brainstorming sessions would be held on topics such as the farming of millets, millet economy, health benefits and farmers' income among others with the active participation of local self-governments, Agriculture Department offices, schools, colleges and agricultural universities along with the Indian embassies and several foreign countries. The Prime Minister said millets are not limited to just food or farming.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi being presented a memento by Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Saturday. PTI

The Prime Minister says that India's millet mission will prove to be a boon for 2.5 crore farmers

"*Shree Anna* is a door to prosperity for the small farmers of the country, *Shree Anna* is the cornerstone of nutrition for crores of countrymen, *Shree Anna* is a felicitation of Adivasi Community, *Shree Anna* means getting more crops for less water, *Shree Anna* is a big foundation for chemical-free farming, *Shree Anna* is a huge help in fighting climate change," he added.

Generating interest

Millets were declared nutri-cereals in 2018 where work was carried out on all levels from making the farmers aware of its benefits to generating interest in the market, he said.

He added that millets are primarily cultivated in 12 or 13 States. Earlier, the consumption per month per person was not more than three kilograms, whereas it has increased to 14 kilograms per month at present, Mr. Modi added.

The Prime Minister said the sale of millet food products had also seen a boost of roughly 30%.

Mr. Modi claimed that India's millet mission – the campaign for *Shree Anna* – would prove to be a boon for 2.5 crore farmers of the country.

He said millets were known for their climate resilience and could be easily produced even in adverse climatic conditions.

"It is a preferred crop for water-stressed areas as it requires relatively less water to produce. Millets can be grown naturally without chemicals and thereby safeguards the health of both humans and the soil," he added.

Mohamed Irfaan Ali, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, in a video message, offered 200 acres of land in his country for exclusive production of millets in honour of the United Nations declaring 2023 as the International Year of Millets.

'Children in romantic relationships are at risk for online abuse'

Sonam Saigal
MUMBAI

Girls, marginalised genders are the worst hit, according to data from an NGO's helpline

Children and young people in romantic relationships are vulnerable to cyberbullying, online threats, blackmail, sexual harassment and abuse, often endangering their mental health.

Girls and other marginalised genders are the worst hit, according to data collected by a non-governmental organisation based on calls received on its helpline over the past six months. The RATI (Rights. Action. Technology. Inclusion.) Foundation is based in Mumbai and works to address the issue of violence against children and women, both in physical and online spaces. The helpline can be reached through a call on 6363 176363.

"The risk turns to danger when they experience friction in the relationship and their partner uses exchanged content to harass, threaten and shame. Existing social power dynamics coupled with content are used to isolate and control the victim," it said.

The helpline received 491 calls over the past six months, out of which 139 cases were registered.

Most of the distress calls were made by girls with ages ranging between 16 and 25 years. There were 117 cases of cyberbullying, 31 cases of intimate content being shared without consent, and 16 cases of mental health issues due to online abuse. Most of the calls were about harmful situations on Instagram, Whatsapp, Facebook, Snapchat and YouTube.

"Perpetrators in cases are mostly male. Most of them are in the same age group of the victim. The perpetrator has greater knowledge of the victim's contacts, networks and even sensitive information like passwords while victims have little and even unreliable data on their perpetrators," it said.

The helpline offers interventions that range from flagging and taking down sensitive content to psychosocial and legal support.

Kashmir's spring sunshine blows the cobwebs away

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

The only season that brings a smile to the face of Khalida Jan, 71, is spring. Her son disappeared after security forces allegedly picked him up from north Kashmir in 1992, and life has never been the same again for her.

"Maybe, the bright light of the sun, green cover, and blooming flowers remind me of the happy times we lived in, before 1992," Ms. Jan said.

As spring breaks, psychiatrists in Kashmir are able to help their patients battling seasonal affective disorder (SAD) – brought on by the harsh winter and the dull sunlight, along with conflict-induced depression – transition out of antidepressant medication.

It is not just the change of scenery, it is also a time when people can begin going out after the winter's ice and snow. They are joining families and friends to enjoy the first flowering in the Valley's gardens and parks, with almond, peach, cherry and apricot blossoms. This year, the Tulip Garden expects to see the blooming of 1.5 million tulips in multiple colours. All this acts as mental health therapy, according to Valley-based psychiatrists.

Zakir Mir, a resident of Pulwama, visited the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS), Srinagar, in the first week of March with some "good news" for his physician. With the grey and grim winter giving way for a colourful, sunny spring, Mr. Mir told his psychiatrist that he was feeling better and "ready to give up antidepressants". "Spring light and colours start elevating the mood," said Dr. Arshad Hussain, a professor at IMHANS-Kashmir, adding that SAD sees a dip in mood-modulating hormones like dopamine and serotonin.

Welcome change: More than a million flowers will bloom in the Tulip Garden in Kashmir this season. NISSAR AHMAD

Around 45% of Kashmir's adult population (1.8 million) suffers from some form of mental distress, according to a study conducted by the Department of Psychiatry, Jawahar Lal Nehru Memorial Hospital (JLNMH), Srinagar, in 2020. It also found that there was a high prevalence of trauma (47%), depression (41%), anxiety (26%), and post-traumatic stress disorder (19%).

Dr. Hussain said, "Spring emerges as a significant factor in addressing the physiological aspects of depression." These include tiredness, sleep disturbances, appetite changes, and many more.

Fewer antidepressants

A change is visible at the outpatient department at the IMHANS too.

"I am prescribing fewer antidepressants for those battling seasonal depression, that is induced by the changes that take place from autumn onwards. We ask those with depression to relive or imagine moments that make them happy as part of behavioural therapy," he said, adding that it was easier this time.

"We encourage them to socialise and move around with friends to absorb the positive change setting in," Dr. Hussain said. He sees equal number of women and men at the outpatient department.

Most psychiatry hospitals in British colonies had large gardens with plants that had references from the Koran and the Bible, according to Dr. Hussian. "There was a belief that creating the setting of heaven could bring a person back from mental illnesses," he said.

At Government Psychiatric Diseases Hospital, Srinagar, founding superintendent Dr. Erina Hoch, a Swiss psychiatrist, also focused on plantations around the Valley's first mental health facility.

JAKARTA

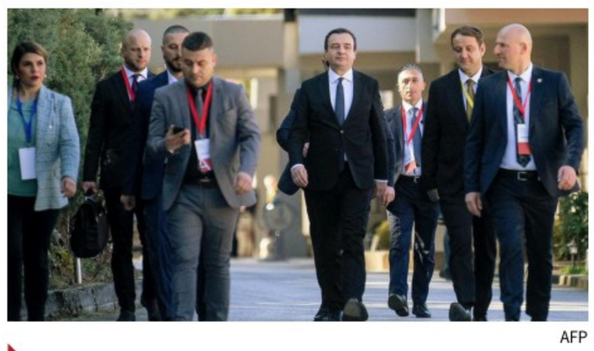
Indonesia's Merapi volcano erupts, with hot clouds reaching 1,300 m

AFP

Indonesia's Mount Merapi, one of the world's most active volcanoes, erupted late on Friday and continued to spew hot ash and other volcanic material on Saturday. Footage of flaming lava pouring out of the crater and a tall column of hot cloud rising 1,300 metres into the air was released by officials on Friday night. AFP

OHRID

In latest bid, Serbia and Kosovo hold talks over EU peace plan

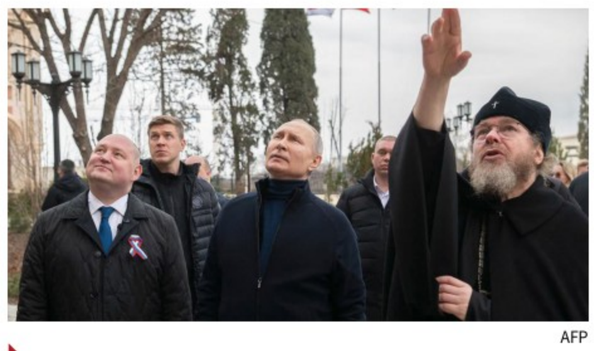


AFP

Kosovo and Serbia leaders kicked off the latest round of EU-led talks on Saturday, as the long-time rivals come under increasing pressure to strike a deal to normalise ties. The meeting in North Macedonia comes after the two sides failed to reach an agreement in Brussels last month. AFP

MOSCOW

Putin visits Crimea on annexation anniversary; grain deal extended

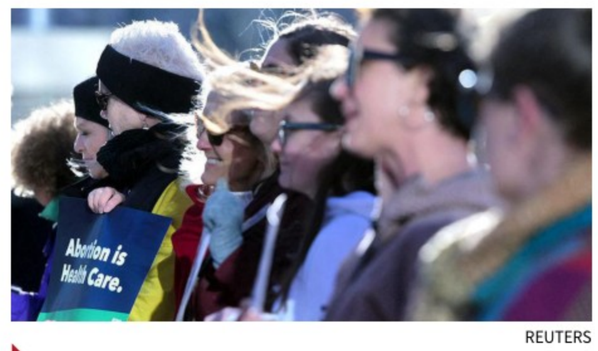


AFP

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Saturday visited Crimea to mark the ninth anniversary of the peninsula's annexation. Turkey meanwhile announced the extension of a deal that has allowed Ukraine to export grain following Russia's offensive, but Kyiv and Moscow disagreed if the deal was prolonged for 60 or 120 days. AFP

CHEYENNE

Wyoming Governor signs measure banning abortion pill in U.S. State



REUTERS

Wyoming Gov. Mark Gordon signed a Bill on Friday night prohibiting abortion pills in the State and also allowed a separate measure restricting abortion to become law without his signature. The Republican Governor's decision comes after the issue of access to abortion pills took centre stage this week in a Texas court. AP

Pak. police break into Imran's residence, arrest PTI workers

Former Pakistan Prime Minister had left for Islamabad to attend the hearing in the Toshakhana corruption case; court cancels arrest warrants against Khan, adjourns hearing till March 30

Press Trust of India
LAHORE

Over 10,000 armed Punjab police personnel stormed Imran Khan's residence here on Saturday and arrested dozens of his party workers after the former Pakistan Prime Minister left for Islamabad to attend a court hearing in a corruption case against him.

The police personnel, using a power shovel, removed the barricades and tents at the entrance of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party chief's Zaman Park residence and evicted hundreds of his supporters camping there to prevent Mr. Khan's arrest in the Toshakhana case.

They conducted a search at the house after demolishing its main gate and walls. The Punjab police, whose action ended later, were reportedly met with resistance from PTI workers from inside, resulting in violence.

High drama: The police detain supporters of Imran Khan during a search operation at his residence in Lahore on Saturday. AP

Dozens of PTI workers were taken into custody as the police claimed shots were fired upon them from inside the premises, *Geo News* reported.

Some 10 workers reportedly were injured in the operation.

Meanwhile, a Pakistani judge on Saturday cancelled Mr. Khan's arrest warrants in the Toshakhana corruption case and allowed him to go home without indicting him, amidst clashes between his supporters and police outside the court complex in Islamabad.

Mr. Khan arrived at the Islamabad Judicial Complex from Lahore to appear before the court of Additional District and Sessions Judge Zafar Iqbal to attend proceedings on a complaint filed by the Election Commission of Pakistan for allegedly concealing details of gifts in his assets declarations.

Judge Iqbal agreed with the suggestion by Mr. Khan's lawyer to get the signature of the former premier on the attendance sheet in his vehicle to comply with the court orders of in-person presence.

The judge allowed Mr. Khan to go back to Lahore after marking his attendance.

Judge Iqbal also cancelled the arrest warrants issued against Mr. Khan in the Toshakhana case and adjourned the hearing till March 30 due to the chaos following clashes between police and PTI workers.

Trump calls for protest after expecting to be arrested in secret payments case

Associated Press
NEW YORK

Donald Trump said he expects to be arrested on Tuesday and called upon supporters to protest as a New York grand jury investigates hush money payments to women who alleged sexual encounters with the former U.S. President. There is no evidence, however, that prosecutors have made any formal outreach to him.

In a Saturday morning post on his social media platform, Mr. Trump said he expected to be taken into custody as the Manhattan District Attorney eyes charges. Mr. Trump would be the first former President ever to be charged with a crime.

'Illegal leaks'

Mr. Trump's post said "illegal leaks" from the office of prosecutor Alvin Bragg indicate that "THE FAR & AWAY LEADING REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE & FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, WILL BE ARRESTED ON TUESDAY OF NEXT WEEK."

Donald Trump

Should Mr. Trump be indicted, he would be arrested only if he refused to surrender. Mr. Trump's lawyers have previously said he would follow normal procedure, meaning he would likely agree to surrender at a New York Police Department precinct or directly to Mr. Bragg's office.

There is no evidence that prosecutors have made any formal contact to warn Mr. Trump that he would be taken into custody. A Trump spokesperson said on Saturday that "there has been no notification" of a pending arrest.

Danielle Filson of the District Attorney's office said prosecutors "will decline to confirm or comment" on questions related to Mr. Trump's post, as well as potential charges. Mr. Trump's lawyers, Susan Necheles and Joseph Tacopina, did not immediately return messages seeking comment about Mr. Trump's post or the timing of a possible arrest.

Mr. Trump's call for his supporters to protest that was especially jarring, evoking language that the then-President used shortly before the riot at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021.

After a rally near the White House that morning, Trump supporters stormed the Capitol, breaking through doors and windows and leaving officers beaten and bloodied.

The indictment of Mr. Trump, 76, would be an extraordinary development after years of investigations into his business, political and personal dealings. It is likely to galvanise critics who say Mr. Trump, already a 2024 presidential candidate, lied and cheated his way to the top and to embolden supporters who feel the Republican is being unfairly targeted by a Democratic prosecutor.

Repeat of 2020 claims

In his social media post, Mr. Trump repeated his lies that the 2020 presidential election he lost to Biden was stolen and he urged his followers to "PROTEST, TAKE OUR NATION BACK!"

Law enforcement officials in New York have been making security preparations for the possibility that Mr. Trump could be indicted. There has been no public announcement of any time frame for the grand jury's secret work in the case, including any potential vote on whether to indict the ex-President.

Targeted by drone attack in areas including Lviv: Ukraine

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

Ukraine said on Saturday it was struck overnight by a volley of explosive drones, some of which reached the relatively peaceful Lviv region in the war-battered nation's west.

Russia regularly pounds Ukraine with missiles, artillery and drones, prompting painful power cuts that have blocked people from warming their homes or getting drinking water.

"Around 21:00 on March 17, 2023, the Russian invaders attacked Ukraine with Iranian-made kamikaze attack drones of the Shahed-136/131 type," Ukraine's Air Force said in a statement on Telegram.

It added that 11 out of 16 drones were "destroyed".

According to the Air Force, the attack was launched from the Sea of Azov and from Russia's Bryansk region that borders Ukraine. Some of the drones targeted the western Lviv region.

In the southeastern Dnipropetrovsk region, three drones were shot down. "Two others hit a critical infrastructure facility in Novomoskovsk," an official said.

WHO accuses China of withholding COVID data

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has accused China of withholding information and data that may throw light on the origin of the COVID-19 pandemic, and has asked why such information was not shared three years ago.

"Last Sunday, WHO was made aware of data published on the Global Initiative on Sharing Avian Influenza Data (GISAID) database in late January, and taken down again recently. The data, from the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], relates to samples taken at the Huanan market in Wuhan, in 2020," WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said, earlier this week.

GISAID is a global science initiative and primary source established in 2008 that provides open access to genomic data of influenza viruses and the coronavirus responsible for the COVID-19 pandemic

'Share data'

"While it was online, scientists from a number of countries downloaded the data and analysed it. As soon as we became aware of this data, we contacted the Chinese CDC and urged them to share it with WHO and the international scientific community so it can be analysed," Dr. Ghebreyesus said.

He added that a meeting of WHO's Scientific Advisory Group for the Origins of Novel Pathogens was convened, and researchers from the Chinese CDC and the international group of scientists were asked to present their analyses of the data to SAGO.

"Every piece of data relating to studying the origins of COVID-19 needs to be shared with the international community immediately. These data should have been shared three years ago," WHO maintained. "We continue to call on China to be transparent in sharing data, and to conduct the necessary investigations and share the results," it added.

WHO has noted that available data does not provide "a definitive answer" to the question of how the pandemic began", even while stating that this year, the world may be "able to say that COVID-19 is over as a public health emergency of international concern."

U.K. Interior Minister visits Rwanda over migrant plan

Associated Press
LONDON

Britain's Home Secretary arrived in Rwanda on Saturday for a visit aimed at reinforcing the U.K. government's commitment to a controversial plan to deport some asylum-seekers to the African country.

Ahead of her visit, Suella Braverman said the migration policy "will act as a powerful deterrent against dangerous and illegal journeys."

Britain's Conservative government wants to stop migrants from reaching the U.K. across the English Channel, and a deportation agreement signed with Rwanda last year was part of measures intended to deter the arrivals. More than 45,000 people arrived in Britain by boat in 2022.

In an attempt to renew ties, Seoul moves to 'normalise' military pact with Tokyo

Agence France-Presse
SEOUL

South Korea will fully implement a key military intelligence-sharing pact with Japan, a Defence Ministry official told AFP on Saturday, as the two countries move to thaw long-frozen relations and renew diplomacy to counter Pyongyang.

At a fence-mending summit on Thursday, the neighbours agreed to turn the page on a bitter dispute over Japan's use of war-time forced labour.

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol, who has been keen to end the spat and present a united front against the nuclear-armed North, had flown to Japan to meet Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, the first such summit in 12 years.

Military agreement

According to a pool report, Mr. Yoon told Mr. Kishida he wanted a "complete normalisation" of a 2016 military agreement called the General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA), which enables the two U.S. allies to share military secrets, particularly over Pyongyang's nuclear and missile capacity.

Following the summit, South Korea's Foreign Ministry was asked "to proceed with the needed measures to normalise the agreement.".

Seoul had threatened to scrap GSOMIA in 2019 as relations with Tokyo soured over trade disputes and a historical row stemming from Japan's 35-year colonial rule over the peninsula. In response, an alarmed U.S. said that calling off the pact would only benefit North Korea and China.

Hours before it was set to expire, South Korea agreed to extend GSOMIA "conditionally", but warned it could be "terminated" at any moment.

Confronted with Pyongyang's growing aggression and flurry of missile tests, the neighbours have increasingly sought to bury the hatchet.

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer, Project Division (West), Joint Commissioner (West) Office Premises, 2nd Floor, Sampige Road, Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru-560 020.

No.EE/P-W/TEND/12/2022-23 Date: 18-03-2023

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) (KW-3)
(Short Term Tender Notification (Two Cover System)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal Only)

The Executive Engineer, Project Division, West Zone, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tender from eligible Tenderers for the Construction works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Esimated Cost (₹. in Lakhs)	EMD (in ₹.)
1.	Development of Balance Works of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Samudaya Bhavana at RKS Nagar in Ward No.139.	100.00	2,00,000/-
2.	Improvements and Development works at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Medical Day-Care Center in Ward No.139, (Balance Work).	100.00	2,00,000/-

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded through e-Portal from: **20-03-2023. (2)** Date and Time for Pre-bid meeting on: **23-03-2023 at 3:00 p.m. (3)** Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: **27-03-2023 upto 4:00 p.m. (4)** Opening of Technical Bid: **29-03-2023 at 4:30 p.m. (5)** Opening of Financial Bid: **31-03-2023 at 4:30 p.m.** (if possible). **(6)** Corrigendum/Addendum/ any other clarification will be published in e-Procurement Portal only. **(7)** This tender notice can be also be seen on the BBMP website: www.bbmp.gov.in. Further particulars can be obtained from the above office during working hours on working days or from **website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-, Executive Engineer, Project Division (West), BBMP.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"- PROCUREMENT NOTICE
WORKS DEPARTMENT
E-mail : ceworldbankprojects@gmail.com

Bid Identification No. CE-W.B.P. (O) - 44 / 2022-23

1. The Chief Engineer (World Bank Project), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of Road & Bridge work as detailed below :
2. Nature of work : **Road work**
3. No. of work : **01 no.**
4. Tender Cost : **Rs.10,000.00 (on-line)**
5. Class of Contractor : **Special / Super Class Contractor**
6. Available of bid document in the website : **From 10.00 AM of 18.03.2023 to 5.00 PM of 27.03.2023**
7. Pre-Bid meeting : **Dt.21.03.2023**
8. Date of opening of Bid : **Dt.28.03.2023 at 11.30 AM**
9. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website : **https://tenderodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Chief Engineer, World Bank Project, Odisha.
B-1364 : OIPR-34003/11/0083/2223

ODISHA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING)
SANTARAPUR, BHUBANESWAR- 751002.
Tel-MD 0674- 2340573, Tel Fax-2340096, E-mail - mdosscltd456@gmail.com

NIT No.OSSC/Mktg(Hort)-05/2023
Short e-Tender Call Notice for Procurement of Certified Seed material of Ginger & Turmeric for 2022-23

OSSC Ltd. invites e-Tender only from Producers (and in case of GOI PSUs, their authorized Agencies) on item wise rate contract basis in double cover system through online mode only for the works below.

Name of the work	Purchase of Certified Seed material of Ginger & Turmeric for 2022-23
Nos of work	One
Availability of bid documents in Portal	15 hours on 18.03.2023 to 17 hours of 27.03.2023
Last date of receipt of tender in portal	17 hours of 27.03.2023
Date and Time of Opening of Bid	11 hours 28.03.2023

The detailed descriptions of crops, varieties, quantity, parameters, terms and conditions specified in the tender schedule would be available in the e-Tender portal **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** . Any addendum/ corrigendum/cancellation can also be seen in the said website.

Managing Director, OSSC Ltd.
CAD-5172: OIPR-01106/11/0027/2223

At a high dose, sucralose impairs mouse immune responses

The Hindu Bureau

A recent study, published in the *Nature,* provides evidence that high doses of sucralose – a calorie-free sugar substitute that is 600 times sweeter than sucrose and approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use as a general-purpose sweetener – can limit immune responses in mice.

Sucralose is generally regarded as safe – the reason why the FDA has approved it.

However, of late, concerns have been raised about the long-term safety of certain sweeteners. In line with these concerns, the latest study has shown that intake of high doses of sucralose in mice results in "immunomodulatory effects by limiting T cell proliferation and T cell differentiation".

The lead author from the Francis Crick Institute, London and other researchers have now shown that sucralose affects the membrane order of T cells, accompanied by a reduced efficiency of T cell receptor signalling and intracellular calcium mobilisation.

T cell responses

When mice with subcutaneous cancer and bacterial infection were given a dose of sucralose, which is higher than what humans consume daily, it resulted in impaired T cell responses; mice in the control group did not show any reduction in T cell responses. Also, when the researchers stopped feeding the mice in the intervention group with sucralose, the T cell responses began to recover, thus clearly indicating the link between sucralose and impaired T cell responses.

"Overall, these findings suggest that a high intake of sucralose can dampen T cell-mediated responses, an effect that could be used in therapy to mitigate T cell-dependent autoimmune disorders," they write.

Unexpected result

"Our findings do not provide evidence that normal sucralose intake is immunosuppressive, but they do demonstrate that at high (but achievable) doses, sucralose has an unexpected effect on T cell responses and functions in autoimmune, infection as well as tumour models," they write.

However, they note that the study cannot exclude the possibility that sucralose may affect T cells through "additional mechanisms, such as epigenetic changes in response to long-term sucralose exposure or an ability to modulate taste receptors that are not shared with other sweeteners".

Though they did not observe major changes in the microbiome, they say that it is "likely to contribute to the overall response to sucralose intake".

Tamil Nadu's novel initiative results in reduced TB deaths

Deaths within two months of TB diagnosis (early TB deaths) have reduced from more than 600 in April 2022 to less than 350 in December 2022

R. Prasad

Tamil Nadu has pioneered an initiative across the State to reduce the mortality rate among people with tuberculosis. The initiative – TN-KET (Tamil Nadu Kasanoi Erappila Thittam, meaning TB death-free project) – which began in April 2022 in 2,500-odd public healthcare facilities that diagnosed TB in 30 districts, has already achieved significant reduction in the number of early TB deaths.

Nearly 70% of all TB deaths among notified TB patients take place in the first two months after diagnosis. In Tamil Nadu, thanks to TN-KET, deaths within two months of TB diagnosis, referred to as early TB deaths, have reduced from more than 600 in April 2022 to less than 350 in December 2022. Also, the average time to death after diagnosis doubled from less than 20 days before April to 40 days in July 2022.

Differentiated TB Care

The heart of the initiative is the 'Differentiated TB Care' aimed at assessing whether people with TB need ambulatory care or admission in a health facility to manage severe illness at the time of diagnosis. The differentiated TB care guidelines, released by the Central TB Division in January 2021, requires comprehensive assessment of 16 clinical, laboratory and radiological parameters. But the challenge is that undertaking the comprehensive assessment would take time, and most PHCs, many taluk and block-level healthcare facilities lack clinical and diagnostic capacity to carry out these assessments.

In lieu of the 16 parameters, Chennai-based National Institute of Epidemiology (ICMR-NIE), which is spearheading TN-KET along with the State TB Cell, found that preliminary assessment (triaging) of patients based on just three conditions – very severe undernutrition, respiratory insufficiency, and inability to stand without support – was feasible for quick identification at diagnosis and referral for admission in a healthcare facility for comprehensive assessment and further management of the disease.

The comprehensive assessment is mainly for identifying the medical conditions that require immediate treatment. Using only three conditions meant that people with severe TB illness needing immediate care were identified and admitted to a healthcare facility on the same day of diagnosis even under programmatic conditions, thus vastly cutting down the delay and increasing the chances of saving lives. The State has identified around 150 nodal inpatient care facilities with nearly 900 beds earmarked for people with TB who are severely ill.

"Based on the death data in Karnataka, where we piloted triaging of TB patients at diagnosis based on severity in late-2020, we realised that at least 30-40% of the deaths can be prevented if triaging and appropriate care is provided to people who have severe illness," says Dr. Hemant Deepak Shewade, senior scientist at NIE, who is leading the initiative with the support of ICMR-NIRT in Chennai and the WHO India. The Tamil Nadu government is implementing the programme.

According to him, of the over 42,500 adults who were diagnosed with TB between April and December 2022 in Tamil Nadu, nearly 3,300 were referred, comprehensively assessed and confirmed as severely ill at nodal inpatient care facilities. Of this, 3,100 (94%) were admitted for inpatient care. In December 2022, the referral, comprehensive assessment and confirmation of severe illness among eligible people improved to 88%.

"The triaging based on naked eye observation and measurements for oxygen saturation and respiratory rate to know respiratory insufficiency, especially during the pandemic, was highly doable. And we trained our supervisory staff, who are not nurses, to carry out these measurements at PHCs and triage people with TB," says Dr. Asha Frederick, Tamil Nadu State TB Officer, who is leading TN-KET with Dr. Shewade.

Target achieved

"The TN-KET initiative has already achieved the initial target of 80% triaging of patients, 80% referral, comprehensive assessment and confirmation of severe illness, and 80% admission among confirmed," says Dr. Shewade. "In December 2022, we reached the 90%-90%-90% goal at State level and now our target is to achieve the same in each district.

Another challenge is to increase the duration of admission. For instance, people with very severe undernutrition, which comprises 50% of the admitted patients, the duration of treatment has to be long. "At the State level, the average admission duration was five days between April and December last year, which improved to six days in December," Dr. Shewade says. "With the support of district TB officers and physicians in the nodal inpatient care facilities, our next goal is to increase the average admission duration to more than seven days."

Saving lives by cutting down delay, beginning treatment

The TN-KET (Tamil Nadu-Kasanoi Erappila Thittam) initiative began in April 2022 in 2,500-odd public healthcare facilities that diagnosed tuberculosis in 30 districts

- The heart of the initiative is the 'Differentiated TB Care' aimed at assessing whether people with TB need ambulatory care or admission in a health facility to manage severe illness at the time of diagnosis
- Nearly 70% of all TB deaths among notified TB patients take place in the first two months after diagnosis
- Preliminary assessment of patients based on just three conditions was sufficient for quick identification at diagnosis and referral for admission in a hospital
- This resulted in admission of people with severe TB illness in a hospital on the same day of diagnosis, thus increasing the chances of saving lives

Lacking: Most PHCs, many taluk and block-level healthcare facilities lack clinical and diagnostic capacity

- Around 150 nodal inpatient care facilities have been identified, and nearly 900 beds earmarked for people with TB who are severely ill
- In December 2022, the State achieved 90% triaging of patients, 90% referral and confirmation of severe illness, and 90% admission among confirmed

The meandering path of brain development

Jacob Koshy

Maturity, the thinking goes, comes with age. However, this journey from childhood to adulthood is uneven: some mental attributes surface faster than others, some are more pronounced in girls, and poverty and trauma have an outsized influence on cognitive development, says one of the largest studies of its kind, spanning nearly 9,000 children and young adults from India.

The C-Veda

The study is part of a long-term project called the 'Consortium on Vulnerability to Externalising Disorders and Addictions' (C-Veda). It aims to follow up those tested over decades, and evaluate the effect of biological and environmental risk on cognitive development.

Brain development progresses from childhood to early adulthood with wide-ranging connections among neurons in multiple parts of the brain. This connectivity significantly influences abilities such as temporarily holding chunks of information, called 'working memory' (for instance, memorising a phone number before writing it down) and 'set shifting' (iterating multiple ways to solve a puzzle). These skills are classified as executive functions. Another category of functions, called social cognition help mediate relationships.

A consortium of psychiatrists, neurologists, psychologists from India and the U.K., investigating the role of environment and genetics on brain development, analysed four kinds of executive functions: verbal working memory, visuo-spatial working memory, response inhibition (the ability to stop one task and begin another), set-shifting and two kinds of social cognition: faux pas recognition (inferring social cues) and emotion recognition (inferring another's state of mind).

They report, in the April 2023 edition of the peer-reviewed *Asian Journal of Psychiatry*, that 'working memory' develops first, followed by inhibitory control and finally cognitive flexibility. However, certain abilities such as visual and verbal reasoning stabilised by late adolescence and didn't rise as people aged, whereas cognitive ability and emotional cognition continued to develop even after adolescence, Eesha Sharma, the lead author of the study, told *The Hindu*.

Progress: Children who did well in early childhood in verbal working memory continued to significantly outperform their peers. GETTY IMAGES

The studies, spanning a range of socio-economic groups, ages, urbanisation and gender, also found that children who manifested certain traits to a high degree outperformed their peers in that skill even as they aged, while other traits didn't constitute a permanent advantage.

"Response inhibition has a ceiling. If you are low performing early on, you will catch up as you grow older. It was the other way, however, in verbal working memory. Those who did well in early childhood continued to significantly outperform their peers," said Dr. Sharma, an assistant professor at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bengaluru. "However, what all this means in the real world is a question that we are still analysing."

Complex abilities

The more 'complex abilities' – response inhibition, cognitive flexibility, and emotion recognition – are "maximally impacted" by environments such as poverty or childhood adversity.

"No matter which ability you are looking at, children in wealthier households do better," she said.

C-Veda expects to map the brains of those participating in the study and evaluate and compare neurological development.

"If we can generate brain-development charts across ages, just like how there are charts for physical growth, it could be a valuable tool in schools and mental health assessments," Dr. Sharma said.

SNAPSHOTS

Magellan spacecraft records volcanic activity on Venus

Researchers have identified evidence they interpret as active volcanism on the surface of Venus, as per a new analysis of radar images from the Magellan spacecraft (*Science*). The images reveal a vent that changed shape on Venus, which they believe points to ongoing volcanic activity. They identified a volcanic vent which grew larger and changed shape between two Magellan radar images taken eight months apart. Changes to the adjacent surface could be caused by a lava flow emanating from the vent.

Evolution of warning colouration in amphibians

New findings (*Science*) show how species that use bright colouration to keep predators away survive long enough for this warning signal colouration to evolve, before predators who can better spot them through their colours learn to avoid them. They say predators exposed to hidden warning signals would continue to treat animals that exhibit bright colours like advertising their defences such as toxicity with caution, providing pressure for warning colouration to become a permanent adaptation.

Worldwide water extremes increasing since 2002

The global intensity of water cycle extremes increased from 2002-2021 (*Nature Water*). This intensity is correlated with global temperature, suggesting that continued warming could cause more frequent, severe droughts and floods. Researchers found that there was an excess of intense droughts and extreme wet events during 2015-2021. During this period, the frequency of extreme events was four per year, compared with three per year over the previous 13 years.

Question Corner

Life on earth

Has the substance that may have sparked life on earth identified?

A team of Rutgers scientists dedicated to pinpointing the primordial origins of metabolism has identified part of a protein that could provide scientists clues to detecting planets on the verge of producing life (*Science Advances*). This has important implications in the search for extraterrestrial life because it gives researchers a new clue to look for. Based on laboratory studies, Rutgers scientists said that one of the most likely chemical candidates that kick-started life was a simple peptide with two nickel atoms, they are calling "Nickelback", because its backbone nitrogen atoms bond two critical nickel atoms. Nickel, they reasoned, was an abundant metal in early oceans. When bound to the peptide, the nickel atoms become potent catalysts, attracting additional protons and electrons and producing hydrogen gas. Hydrogen, the researchers said, was also more abundant on early earth and would have been a critical source of energy to power metabolism.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

What are the reforms to China's party-state order?

Why has the Xi Jinping led government decided to bring even more sectors under the wing of the CPC?

Ananth Krishnan

The story so far:

On March 16, 2023, the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) released a plan to overhaul the country's party-state machinery, the second major restructuring of the party and government bureaucracy by President Xi Jinping. The announcement came days after the conclusion of the annual session of the National People's Congress (NPC) in Beijing, which on March 10 formally endorsed Mr. Xi for his third five-year term. The reforms are likely to give the CPC – and Mr. Xi – even more direct control over several key areas of policy making during his third term, taking forward the trend of political centralisation seen since Mr. Xi's coming to power in 2012.

What's driving the party-state restructuring?

According to the plan on reforming government institutions released by the CPC on March 16, newly set up party commissions will take over control of policy-making in several key sectors, previously under the domain of the State Council, which comprises various government ministries and is headed by the Premier. In China, the bureaucracy is separated by a parallel party-state structure. Government reforms in the post-Mao years sought to separate the two branches in an effort to professionalise the government bureaucracy, partly a response to the overcentralisation of party power under Mao. During this period, which also saw the introduction of what was called "collective leadership", the Premier and the State Council grew to exercise control over policy making, particularly with regard to the economy. Mr. Xi has both disbanded the collective leadership model and diluted the power of the State Council, bringing back control over policy making to party-led commissions. A first round of party-state reforms in 2018 set up new party-led central commissions for economic reforms, foreign policy, and other areas.

> The reforms are focused on two key areas — tightening party control in regulating the financial sector, and bringing the party directly in charge of science and technology policy

What do the latest reforms entail?

The latest reforms of both the party and state bureaucracies will further move decision making out of the State Council, and are focused on two areas: tightening and unifying party control in regulating the financial sector, and bringing the party directly in charge of science and technology policy. Both have been key issues for Mr. Xi, who has criticised the "disorderly expansion" of capital by the private sector as well as expressed urgency in boosting self-reliance amid worsening relations with the U.S. and a continuing trade and technology war.

A new Central Commission for Finance will be set up "to strengthen the Central Committee's centralised and unified leadership over financial work" which will be in charge of "top-level planning, coordination, overall advancement of financial stability and development and for supervising the work's implementation." Similarly, a Central Commission for Science and Technology will be tasked with "pushing forward the building of a national innovation system and structural scientific and technological reform, studying and deliberating major strategies, plans and policies for the country's sci-tech development, and coordinating efforts to resolve major issues of strategic, guiding and fundamental significance in the sci-tech sector." Also announced was a new Central Social Work Department, which will be tasked with strengthening party work at the "grassroots" as well as "party building work in mixed-ownership and non-public enterprises", which will mean greater party control over the private sector. The body in charge of Hong Kong affairs, the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, has also been removed from the State Council and will report to the Central Committee.

What of state-side reforms?

Besides the setting up of new party-led commissions, parallel reforms on the State Council side have also been announced. The Ministry of Science and Technology will be "restructured to better allocate resources to overcome challenges in key and core technologies, and move faster toward greater self-reliance in science and technology." A new National Financial Regulatory Administration will be "in charge of regulating the financial industry except the securities sector", unifying the regulatory functions of the People's Bank of China and the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission, which has been dissolved. A new National Data Bureau will also be established under the State Council's top planning body, the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), for "coordinating the integration, sharing, development and application of data resources". The broader goal is to unify policy making and regulation, which was earlier spread over different ministries.

Will the SVB collapse impact Indian start-ups?

Will the U.S. administration's move to guarantee deposits calm nerves and ensure funding is not disrupted in the sector? What are the lessons to be learnt from the Silicon Valley Bank crisis? Will investors look at the Indian start-up ecosystem as more favourable?

Mini Tejaswi

The story so far:

On March 10, banking regulators in the U.S. took control of the Silicon Valley Bank (SVB), which typically catered to start-ups, venture capitalists and tech firms, after it suffered a sudden collapse. Days earlier, the bank, headquartered in Santa Clara, California, had announced that it was facing a cash crunch, and failed to raise money by either selling shares – or itself – spooking investors and leading to a run on the bank. On Sunday, the U.S. administration and regulatory authorities acted in concert to guarantee that depositors' money would be repaid in full. And in India, Union Minister of State for Information and Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar met Indian start-ups to assess the impact on them and to try and help them tide over the situation.

What stand has the U.S. government taken?

The Joe Biden administration moved in quickly with the Federal Reserve, the U.S. Treasury Department, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) deciding to guarantee all deposits at SVB. It also seized another bank on Sunday, New York's Signature Bank, which had a large exposure to investors in cryptocurrencies and the digital assets sector. "Your deposits will be there when you need them," President Biden said at the White House, an announcement aimed at reassuring the American public that the country's banking system was sound and had the backing of the administration.

He also made clear that taxpayers would not have to foot the bill for the government's actions, and that the money would come from the fees that banks pay into the FDIC.

> Tech industry insiders think this is an excellent opportunity for start-ups to reassess their treasury management

In meltdown: The Silicon Valley Bank headquarters. GETTY IMAGES

How is India's startup ecosystem affected?

According to media reports, at least 21 start-ups in India had exposure to SVB, which had approximately $209 billion in assets and about $175.4 billion in total deposits as of December 31, 2022. In a Twitter Spaces interaction on Thursday night, Mr. Chandrasekhar said India's start-ups collectively had about $1 billion of their funds deposited in SVB. Earlier in the week, the start-ups had apprised the minister about the fallout including specifically about difficulties in carrying on their business due to blockages in international wire transfers, lack of communication from U.S. agencies, limits on withdrawals and so forth. Finance Ministry officials said the failure of SVB was likely to impact some Indian tech start-ups and IT firms, but that any broader "contagion" that might arise would neither reach Indian shores in a hurry nor were they likely to trigger "systemic risks".

A number of industry stakeholders said while the immediate impact would be minimal because of the bailout, the change in sentiment may have some dampening effect on the entire tech industry for a while. Peter Bendor-Samuel, CEO, Dallas-based Everest Group, told *The Hindu* that given that the U.S. was guaranteeing all deposits, the direct impact on the industry and Indian firms , "is likely to be modest." Avinash Vashistha, Chairman Emeritus, Tholons, a New York-based global innovation advisory and investment firm that had a banking relationship with SVB, told this newspaper: "Many start-ups will be impacted and may have challenges in making U.S. payroll and investments for a week or so. For start-ups and venture funds that have less than $2,50,000 per account at SVB, they should have a minor hitch."

What headwinds are start-ups likely to face?

According to Mr. Bendor-Samuel, and many in the tech sector agree, the change in sentiment after the collapse of SVB, will lead to more caution. Perhaps, a further pull-back from the tech industry may have some dampening effect on all start-ups' ability to raise money and create some headwinds in their client base. "This will not kill the space but slow it down," he said.

"Besides delays, possibly investments will be reduced," said Mr. Vashistha. "This just adds to the uncertainty that already is in the markets as a result of inflation, Fed rate hikes and liquidity [concerns]," he added.

What are the lessons to be learnt?

R. Ray Wang, Principal Analyst & Founder, Constellation Research Inc., expects larger banks in the U.S. like Citi, Chase, Bank of America, and Wells Fargo to get bigger. "Start-ups do need banks that are simple and supportive of their needs. We need more regional banks, not less. A second banking crisis in 15 years is troubling for the stability of investors and start-up founders," he said.

Tech industry insiders stress that this is an excellent opportunity for start-up boards to form sub-committees for treasury management, particularly for those that have raised Series A rounds of funding or higher and are sitting on a significant cash pile. Indian start-up board members must prioritise financial planning and establish clear strategies for dividing funds across two to three banks, they opine. Anirudh. A. Damani, Director, Artha India Ventures, said prudent financial management should be an essential practice. "It can also help put the money to work, especially in a rising interest rate environment, to reduce burn and possibly increase runway by up to a quarter. This prudent financial management could significantly impact the company's runway and [possibly] its valuation," he pointed out.

The recent crisis at SVB highlights the need for Indian founders to take treasury management seriously, tech investors said. "Founders of all sizes must diversify their deposits across multiple banks and establish board-approved treasury plans that outline a clear strategy for managing funds, including approved liquid and money market funds," Mr. Damani said, echoing others across the sector. "By doing so, startups can mitigate risks and protect their businesses from unexpected financial upheavals. As an early-stage startup investor, I urge founders to learn from the SVB crisis and take action to ensure their businesses are well-prepared to weather any financial storm that may come their way," he added.

What lies ahead?

Phil Fersht, CEO and Chief Analyst at U.K.-based HFS Research said that while the SVB disaster will impact investments in the tech start-ups space in the U.S., on the flip side, U.S. firms may view the Indian sector as more stable for long-term bets. "Start-ups in India operate in a different market environment. Firms like Microsoft and Google already invest in the Indian start-up ecosystem. There are still huge amounts of money swelling many global investment funds, and India's start-up scene is starting to look a lot more attractive than Silicon Valley for many investors and VCs," he said.

Others like Constellation Research's Wang said it was a wake-up call for the start-up ecosystem to reassess risk management strategies. "Policies that force banking relationships to be tied to loans can exacerbate concentration of risk. It's best to diversify where you put your funding so that you don't head into bank runs and this type of a scenario," he pointed out.

What is India's stand on same-sex marriage?

With the government saying only the legislature has the right to frame laws on the issue and the Supreme Court referring it to a Constitution Bench, which institution will take a call on equal rights for a marginalised community?

Sudipta Datta

The story so far:

On March 13, a Bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud referred petitions to legally recognise same-sex marriages to a Constitution Bench of five judges of the Supreme Court. The Court has listed the case for final arguments on April 18.

What is the case?

The Court has been hearing multiple petitioners' requests for legal recognition of same-sex marriages under a special law. Initially, it took up the case of two partners who said the non-recognition of same-sex marriage amounted to discrimination that strikes at the root of "dignity and self-fulfilment" of LGBTQIA+ couples. The petitioners cited the Special Marriage Act, 1954, which provides a civil marriage for couples who cannot marry under their personal law, and appealed to the Court to extend the right to the LGBTQIA+ community, by making the "marriage between any two persons" gender neutral.

Why does the community want this right?

Even if LGBTQIA+ couples may live together, legally, they are on a slippery slope. They do not enjoy the rights married couples do. For example, LGBTQIA+ couples cannot adopt children or have a child by surrogacy; they do not have automatic rights to inheritance, maintenance and tax benefits; after a partner passes away, they cannot avail of benefits like pension or compensation. Most of all, since marriage is a social institution, "that is created by and highly regulated by law," without this social sanction, same-sex couples struggle to make a life together.

> Without social and legal sanction, same-sex couples struggle to make a life together

ISTOCKPHOTO

Which way are the Courts leaning?

The Courts, leaning on Article 21 that guarantees the right to life and liberty, have time and again ruled in favour of inter-faith and inter-caste marriages, directing the police and other rights organisations to give them protection when they were threatened by parents or society, pointing out that "all adults have the right to marry a person of their choice." In *Navtej Singh Johar* (2018), when homosexuality was decriminalised, the Court said, "Members of the LGBT[QIA+] community are entitled to the benefit of an equal citizenship, without discrimination, and to the equal protection of law"; "The choice of whom to partner, the ability to find fulfilment in sexual intimacies and the right not to be subjected to discriminatory behaviour are intrinsic to the constitutional protection of sexual orientation." Last November, the Court transferred same-sex cases pending before several High Courts to itself.

What is the Centre's stand?

At depositions in courts and outside, the Centre has opposed same-sex marriage, and said judicial interference will cause "complete havoc with the delicate balance of personal laws". While filing a counter-affidavit during this hearing, the government said that decriminalisation of Section 377 IPC does not give rise to a claim to seek recognition for same-sex marriage. After the *K.S. Puttaswamy* verdict (2017) which upheld the right to privacy and *Navtej Singh Johar* (2018) that decriminalised homosexuality, there was hope that same-sex marriages would be legalised, but that has not been the case, prompting many couples to move court.

In its affidavit filed in the Supreme Court, the government said that the "notion of marriage itself necessarily and inevitably presupposes a union between two persons of the opposite sex. This definition is socially, culturally and legally ingrained into the very idea and concept of marriage and ought not to be disturbed or diluted by judicial interpretation." It submitted that despite the decriminalisation of Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code, the petitioners cannot seek same-sex marriage to be treated as a fundamental right and be recognised under the laws of the country. "Parliament has designed and framed the marriage laws in the country, which are governed by the personal laws/codified laws relatable to customs of various religious communities, to recognise only the union of a man and a woman to be capable of legal sanction, and thereby claim legal and statutory rights and consequences" and that "any interference with the same would cause a complete havoc with the delicate balance of personal laws in the country and in accepted societal values." The government said that even if such a right (allowing same-sex marriage) is claimed under Article 21, the "right can be curtailed by competent legislature on permissible constitutional grounds including legitimate state interest."

The government submitted that statutory recognition of marriage as a union between a 'man' and a 'woman' is inextricably tied to acceptance of the heterogeneous institution of marriage and acceptance of Indian society based on its own cultural and sociological norms acknowledged by the competent legislature.

Are the executive and the judiciary on opposing sides on this?

With the government saying that the concept of marriage "ought not to be disturbed or diluted by judicial interpretation," and the Court leaning towards granting equal rights, including marriage of same-sex couples, citing the Constitution and changing norms, it is clear that the two organs of the state are not in agreement on this. Even if the Court rules in its favour, the march towards equality for the LGBTQIA+ community will be hard. Enforcing something like same-sex marriage in a diverse country with well-entrenched traditions will not be easy. Rights activists are calling for awareness on sex, gender and constitutional rights from the school level to change things on the ground.

A three-way alliance in the Indo-Pacific

AUKUS

The trilateral agreement binds Australia, the U.K. and the U.S. together in a generational partnership for undersea military systems and strategic technology in the Indo-Pacific region at a time when China's defence capabilities are growing fast

Stanly Johny

R. RAJESH

On March 13, Anthony Albanese, Rishi Sunak and Joe Biden, leaders of Australia, the U.K. and the U.S., appeared in front of the *USS Missouri*, a Virginia-class nuclear-powered attack submarine, in San Diego, California, to unveil the AUKUS agreement. The three countries had announced a security alliance in September 2021 and had since then been in talks to thrash out the details of the pact. Last week, the leaders outlined how AUKUS (acronym for Australia, the U.K, and the U.S.) is going to implement its decades-long partnership in undersea military systems and strategic technology. "We're putting ourselves in the strongest possible position to navigate the challenges of today and tomorrow together," Mr. Biden said during the meeting. Others readily agreed.

At its crux, the AUKUS partnership is about helping Australia, the island continent in Oceania right outside the "second island chain" in the Pacific, build a fleet of at least eight nuclear-powered submarines. The origins of the agreement go back to a visit by Andrew Shearer, the Director-General of Australia's Office of National Intelligence, to the U.S. in April 2021, according to a report in the *Wall Street Journal*. Mr. Shearer had an extraordinary request from the then Prime Minister, Scott Morrison – Canberra was looking at acquiring nuclear submarines.

Dragon in the Pacific

Australia had six Collins-class diesel-electric boats, which were ageing and should be replaced by the early 2030s. The country had reached an agreement with France to buy diesel subs. Nuclear-powered submarines, however, can stay underwater for far longer than diesel boats and travel at greater distance. Australia will be able to operate such subs stealthily for prolonged periods, collect intelligence more robustly and deploy troops quickly. The leaders of the three countries held a top-level discussion in June that year on the sidelines of the G-7 summit in Britain.

What brought them together was the dragon in the Pacific. All three countries were facing the heat of China's rise. The U.S. was already pivoting to Asia, seeking to reinforce its conventional might, strengthen and streamline coordination with existing allies and build new alliances. It had already identified China as a "revisionist" power and a threat to the "rules-based order". Britain, which wanted to play a bigger role in the Indo-Pacific in line with the U.S. pivot, also saw China, as it recently described, as an "epoch-defining challenge". For Australia, a non-nuclear power that had been dependent on its western partners for security guarantees, China's rapidly growing military capabilities posed fresh challenges. The three of them moved fast. In September 2021, they announced the AUKUS trilateral alliance. And in 18 months, they have an agreement, probably binding all of them together in defence partnership for generations.

The plan is to make nuclear submarines based on British design and using American technology, which will be called SSN-AUKUS. The agreement will be implemented in phases. In the first phase, the U.S. will rotate up to four of its Virginia-class subs through a port in Perth from 2027. The U.S. will train both Australia's shipyard workers and naval personnel to operate nuclear subs. Britain will rotate one of its Astute class nuclear boats through the base. In the second phase, Australia will buy three Virginia class submarines from the U.S. at a discount, with an option to purchase two more. The U.S. plans to deliver the first of these by 2032 – roughly the time Australia will have to retire its ageing diesel boats.

In the third phase, Australia will have its own nuclear subs. Britain will build the first of the SSN-AUKUS boats in England. Then Australia will build its own in Adelaide. The hulls will have the vertical launching technology of the U.S. – tubes that can carry more advanced missiles in greater numbers than the traditional launchers. It will be a unique blend of U.S. technology, British design and Australian investment. Australia will get its first SSN AUKUS sub by the early 2040s.

The phased implementation will require huge investments in all three countries. The U.S. Navy currently has a fleet of 50 nuclear powered submarines and has plans to extend the fleet to 66. It will urgently have to expand its defence industrial base if it has to both expand its submarine fleet and sell subs to Australia. At present, the U.S. takes almost a year to add one submarine to its fleet. The Pentagon has said it will invest $4.6 billion to expand the U.S.'s submarine production base, while Australia will pump over $2 billion into the industrial bases of the U.S. and U.K. in four years. In the long term, Australia will have to spend up to $245 billion in 32 years to acquire the whole fleet. This needs the commitment and resolve of successive administrations of all the three countries. That the current leaderships of the countries entered into such an agreement is a testimony to their assessment that the competition with China is a generational challenge.

Proliferation fears

While America's allies have largely taken a favourable view of the agreement, China and Russia have responded sharply. Both have raised questions about nuclear non-proliferation as Australia, a non-nuclear power, will get advanced nuclear subs. The U.S. and Britain have maintained that the submarines will be nuclear-powered, but not nuclear armed (they will have conventional non-nuclear weapons). But critics say the subs will use highly enriched uranium, which could be diverted for weapons. U.S. and British officials counter such criticism saying the reactors at the nuclear plants on the boats are sealed shut. The International Atomic Energy Agency, the UN's nuclear watchdog, says it will hold talks with AUKUS countries to monitor nuclear risks and inspect the subs both before and after their deployment.

But beyond the discussion on technicalities, the bigger picture is the intensifying competition between the U.S. and China. Unlike the U.S., which is protected by and has seamless access to the world's two greatest oceans, China has wrinkles in its immediate naval periphery. Japan, South Korea and the Philippines are America's allies. Taiwan, the self-ruled island located just 160 km off Chinese shores, is dependent on the U.S. for security guarantees. Guam, an island in the Western Pacific, is an American territory. Beyond the presence of the U.S. forces and weapons across these geographies, China also faces the hurdles of the first, second and third island chains in force projection across the Pacific. To tackle its limitations, it has built the world's largest navy and sought to establish its dominance in the South China Sea.

The U.S., which had been the unquestionable superpower in the Pacific since Japan's surrender in 1945, wants to counter China's influence. It is holding frequent military drills with South Korea; planning to sell hundreds of cruise missiles to Japan; upgrading a marine regiment in Okinawa; and has recently secured access to four additional military bases in the Philippines. The pivot is under way in full scale. And in AUKUS, it sees a comprehensive, multi-national and multi-phased agreement to bolster its grip on the region and counter China's influence as the new cold war is gradually taking shape.

THE GIST

- In the first phase of the AUKUS implementation, the U.S. will rotate up to four of its Virginia-class subs through a port in Perth from 2027
- Then Australia will buy three Virginia class submarines from the U.S. at a discount, with an option to purchase two more. The U.S. plans to deliver the first of these by 2032
- In the third phase, Australia will have its own nuclear subs, which will be built on British design and use American technology

The 'predator' in the sky

MQ-9A 'Reaper'

The U.S. drone that was forced down by Russian jets in the Black Sea is one of the most advanced remotely piloted aircraft that are operated by many countries, including India

Dinakar Peri

On March 14, the U.S. Air Force (USAF) ditched an MQ-9 Reaper in the Black Sea after a confrontation with two Russian Su-27 jets over international waters west of Crimea. The U.S. said a Russian fighter jet dumped fuel on the drone and in the second instance, flew very close and struck its propeller. It later released a 42-second video that captured the incident.

Featuring unmatched operational flexibility, the MQ-9A 'Reaper' has an endurance of over 27 hours, speeds of 240 KTAS (knots true airspeed) and can operate up to an altitude of 50,000 feet, according to General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, the manufacturer of the High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) .

"Several times before the collision, the Su-27s dumped fuel on, and flew in front of the MQ-9 in a reckless, environmentally unsound and unprofessional manner," Gen James B. Hecker, Commander of U.S. Air Forces Europe and Air Forces Africa, said. "This incident demonstrates a lack of competence in addition to being unsafe and unprofessional." In turn, Russia said the Su-27s were scrambled to identify the aircraft as its transponders were switched off while asserting that Russian fighters "did not use airborne weapons, did not come into contact with the unmanned aerial vehicle and returned safely to the home airfield."

India's links

The curious coincidence is that India has a connect with both the military platforms. While the Su-30MKI, the backbone of the Indian Air Force fighter strength, is a derivative of the Su-27, the Indian Navy is currently operating two MQ-9As on lease. A bigger proposal for procuring 30 armed MQ-9As, popularly called Predator-B, has been delayed.

The Reaper is a significant technological leap from the original RQ-1/ MQ-1 Predator that heralded the arrival of long endurance armed drones at the end of the twentieth century. Armed with AGM-114 Hellfire missiles, it became a symbol of the U.S. war on terror, having being extensively deployed in Afghanistan and the tribal areas of Pakistan in the early 2000s. The RQ-1 Predator, which was first flown by the USAF in 1995, was retired in 2018 and replaced by the Reaper.

According to the USAF, the Reaper is employed primarily as an intelligence-collection asset and secondarily against dynamic execution targets. "Given its significant loiter time, wide-range sensors, multi-mode communications suite, and precision weapons, it provides a unique capability to perform strike, coordination, and reconnaissance against high-value, fleeting, and time-sensitive targets."

It is remotely operated by a two-person team – a pilot and an aircrew member to operate the sensors and weapons. MQ-9As are operated by the U.S., U.K., France, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and on order by Belgium. Japan recently inducted the MQ-9B Sea Guardian, the maritime configuration.

Indian Navy leased the two MQ-9As in 2020, which has since been extended. In November 2022, General Atomics announced that the RPAs completed 10,000 flight hours during a period of two years, with the maiden flight taking place on November 21, 2020. "Our MQ-9As have helped the Indian Navy to cover over 14 million square miles of operating area," Linden Blue, CEO of GA, had said.

On the deal for 30 armed MQ-9Bs, Navy Chief Admiral R. Hari Kumar said last December that the case was in progress and at a stage "where we are discussing if numbers need to be rationalised or kept as it is."

At Aero India in Bengaluru last month, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and General Atomics announced that the turbo-propeller engines which power the MQ-9B will be supported by HAL's engine division for the Indian market. The companies are looking to formulate a comprehensive engine Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) programme for upcoming HALE RPA projects, a joint statement had said.

Born-again writer

Perumal Murugan

The International Booker Prize jury has put the Tamil writer's novel *Pyre* (*Pookuzhi*), translated by Aniruddhan Vasudevan, on its long list

Ramya Kannan

J.A. PREMKUMAR

In a move characteristic of the times we live in, the living author Perumal Murugan announced his death on Facebook in January 2015: "Perumal Murugan the writer is dead. As he is no God, he is not going to resurrect himself. He also has no faith in rebirth. An ordinary teacher, he will live as P. Murugan. Leave him alone."

He had been hounded with protests by local caste-based groups who had belatedly discovered a novel four years after it was published in 2010, forced to write an apology and publishers threatened to withdraw all his books from the shelves. The controversy centred on his novel *Madhorubagan*, a raw and poignant but fictional record that pointed to certain customs aligned to the Ardhanareeswarar Temple in Tiruchengode, a small dusty town in western Tamil Nadu. The caste outrage slowly grew Statewide, orchestrated by a powerful intermediate community, and pushed a sensitive writer to declaring the death of the writer in him.

Thankfully, Murugan was indeed reborn. Instead of his words, the regnal proclamation of many countries came true instead: 'The King is dead, long live the King'. Perumal Murugan indeed had a resurrection, not in a cave, but in the corridors of the Madras High Court that struck out strongly in favour of freedom of expression. The court also called for his books to be restored for sale, and a committee to be constituted to protect the right of creative artistes to express themselves.

The International Booker Prize jury recorded this intense struggle when it put his novel *Pyre* (*Pookuzhi*), translated by Aniruddhan Vasudevan, on its long list.

As the red dust of the Kongu (western) soil settled down slowly, Murugan grew, in front of our eyes, as a colossus of modern Tamil literature. In his resurrection, the womb from where the writer emerged: Tiruchengode and its surroundings, its dialect, its flavours, myths, folklore and landscape, its rhythms that also beat in him, only became more vibrant. This true son of the soil who had launched firmly into a central position in modern Tamil writing was nurtured by Kalachuvadu Publications, an equally avant garde force in Tamil publishing.

Tales of conflicts

His experiences are rooted in the geography of his homeland, but are universal in the portrayal of the human predicament. In the agricultural landscape, palms rising tall on bunds alongside rain-fed farms, and the rising heat is nearly palpable in summer, there are conflicts, between the farmer and the land, man and wife, father and son, farm worker and landowner, earth and rain, faith and convenience, goodness and evil, traditions versus modernity. No wonder then, that his work is not the easiest to translate. Multiple translators have worked on his novels and anthologies, and some have confessed to being foxed at times, and yet, this Tamil professor's translated works have gone on to win awards. Apart from multiple awards for the author himself, in 2005, Murugan's novel *Seasons of the Palm* was shortlisted for the Kiriyama Prize, and in 2017, the English translation of *Madhorubhagan*, or *One Part Woman*, won the Sahitya Akademi's Translation Prize.

Murugan's oeuvre now stretches over several genres: poetry, essays, analyses, novels, collections of short stories. In his day job as a professor of Tamil literature, he is acknowledged to have made significant contributions to the study of the literature of the Kongunadu region, crafting a lexicon of words, idioms and phrases unique to the region. His research on Kongu folklore has now been well documented, making him a veritable encyclopaedia of the culture and traditions of the land.

His recent acquaintance with the Booker has his fans thrilled. But they chime in to say that this is merely the beginning, it is merely indicative of the distance that this Perumal Murugan will be traversing in the future – taking his dusty, small Tamil towns, with their own quaint customs and lingo, on to the global stage.

INBRIEF

UBS said to mull Credit Suisse takeover, with Swiss backing

UBS is examining a takeover of Credit Suisse that could see the Swiss government offer a guarantee against the risks involved, two people with knowledge of the matter said on Saturday.

The people said that UBS was coming under pressure from the Swiss authorities to carry out a takeover. Under the plan, Credit Suisse's Swiss business could be spun off, they added.

UBS and Switzerland's FINMA declined to comment when approached by Reuters.

PM Gati Shakti: 156 critical infra-gap projects identified

As many as 156 critical infrastructure gaps in ports for movement of bulk commodities such as coal, cement, fertilizers and foodgrains have been identified for intervention under the PM Gati Shakti programme, according to an official statement. Since its introduction in 2021, 44 Network Planning Group meetings had been held at the central level, wherein 66 major infrastructure projects worth ₹5 lakh crore have been evaluated, the government said. PTI

India has to internationalise payment products: RBI's Das

Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das on Saturday underlined the need for using the G20 presidency to present India's e-payment story to the global audience and seize the opportunity to internationalise payment products such as UPI and RuPay. Home-grown payment products like UPI and RuPay are increasing their global footprint and will make cross-border payments easier, Mr. Das said while inaugurating the Payment System Operators Conference. PTI

'Working to minimise trade data revisions'

Commerce Ministry official says shipment data from remote locations often delayed when computing quick estimates; both export, import figures have seen sharp revisions in several months of this fiscal year; official says working to obviate need for updates so as to improve accuracy to 99.99%

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

The Commerce Ministry attributed the sharp revisions in foreign trade data over the past year to challenges in getting timely data from all ports of entry, along with other issues, and said efforts were underway to minimise revisions so that the export, import numbers released every month were 99.99% accurate.

In six of the eight months between June 2022 and January 2023, India's goods exports have been revised upwards by more than $2 billion from the quick estimates released by the Commerce and Industry Ministry in the subsequent month. Over the same period, merchandise import numbers have been revised by an average of $2.2 billion, with the import bill lowered significantly in four months.

The scale of export revisions shot up between November and January, averaging an upgrade of $3.1 billion or almost 10% of the quick estimates for the period. The highest export revision so far this year was for December at $3.6 billion, while the import bill saw the biggest update for September when it was pared by $3.5 billion.

"There are challenges with how we crunch the data, when it is available and what sources are available," a senior ministry official said in response to a query from *The Hindu*. "For what we call the quick estimates, the full data from all locations, including remote locations is not received yet. But we give the estimates to see the trends," the official added.

"As and when we receive from all locations, there are revisions done based on those. As we modernise our systems, have greater digital data captured everywhere... our endeavour is to try and reduce [revisions] as much as possible," he explained.

Last year, the ministry had stopped releasing preliminary trade estimates early in a month as there were sharp revisions in the quick estimates released a couple of weeks later.

"We thought we will not have revisions after that. We are still having them and the transition is happening. By 15th of every month, we should have relatively data indicating 99.99% of the trade.. those small aberrations will be there whenever amendments happen to import and export transactions," he noted, stressing that revisions were a routine part of statistical systems around the world.

Another official said that recent data revisions were only being noticed because of the scale of changes.

Wide variations

Export upgrades exceeded $2 bn in six of eight months from June

Month	Revised exports	Change	Revised imports	Change
04/22	39.8	-0.40	60.2	-0.10
05/22	39.1	0.20	63.3	0.10
06/22	42.4	2.30	66.31	1.81
07/22	38.5	2.20	66.27	2.29
08/22	36.9	3.00	61.90	-1.97
09/22	35.4	0.00	61.16	-3.50
10/22	31.5	1.70	56.69	-2.32
11/22	34.9	2.86	55.88	-2.34
12/22	38.1	3.59	60.16	1.92
01/23	35.76	2.85	52.33	1.67

($ billion) | Source: Commerce and Industry Ministry

Coats to focus on sustainable sewing thread: Rajiv Sharma

N. Anand
CHENNAI

Coats Group Plc., one of the world's largest thread makers, will continue to focus on the core business of making sustainable sewing threads and is unlikely to re-enter readymade garments which it divested in 2000, according to Group CEO Rajiv Sharma.

"We sold the garments division of Madura Coats, a subsidiary of Coats Viyella, to Indian Rayon in 2000. [Re-entering the segment] will be like rubbing an old wound," Mr. Sharma said during an interaction.

Rajiv Sharma

Coats is now focusing on achieving sustainability targets in key areas such as water, energy and people to make sewing thread for apparel, footwear and performance materials.

To achieve its goal, Coats opened a 'Sustainability Hub' at Madurai.

"In the phase-I (spanning four years till 2022), we have substantially delivered on the [sustainability] target," he said.

"In the second phase, we will make threads using recycled, renewable or new-generation items such as wood pulp and banana skin. Emission reduction across the company's entire value chain is at the heart of these new targets."

Coats posted revenue of about $1.6 billion for FY22, of which India accounted for 10-11%. In the next few years, India had the potential to scale it up to 16-18%. Tamil Nadu contributed to 60% of Coat's manufacturing capacity, he added.

U.S. apparel market to stay muted in 2023: Ganapathi

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Demand for apparel in the U.S market will remain muted in calendar 2023 and is likely to rebound in 2024, forecast Siva Ganapathi, executive vice-chairman, and MD, Gokaldas Exports, one of India's largest manufacturers and exporters of apparel.

"I am anticipating demand to be somewhat muted in calendar 2023 with a rebound in 2024; so until spring of 2024 we will have to manage with a subdued demand in the U.S.," he said in an interview.

Siva Ganapathi

"The U.S. market was doing pretty much fine in calendar 2022, it had an inflation-led, price-led growth, although not a volume-led growth," he said. "Due to rising oil prices and general inflationary trends in the market, prices, overall, went up. As a result, apparel prices too went up by 7% in 2022," Mr. Ganapathi added.

Also, U.S. apparel brands now had excess inventory as they had overbought in 2022 in anticipation of high growth.

Mr. Ganapathi said demand in Europe was still somewhat muted given the Ukraine war, while China may see some traction of incremental buying.

Overall, most apparel exporters were preparing for soft demand going forward as the U.S. Fed's tightening of interest rates would have some lagged effect, with some impact on consumer purchases.

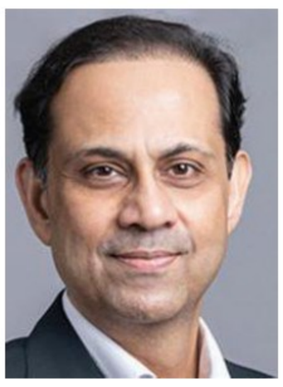
Centre must expedite GST rationalisation: CII

Rates must be lowered especially on items such as cement, which benefits so many sectors including infrastructure, says CII President

INTERVIEW

Sanjiv Bajaj

Vikas Dhoot



The government must expedite the GST rate rationalisation process and look to lower rates on items such as cement, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) president Sanjiv Bajaj said in an interview. While the sharp pace of rate increases by the U.S. Federal Reserve catalysed the woes of lenders such as Silicon Valley Bank, which had to sell treasury bond holdings to meet commitments, Mr. Bajaj said Indian financial institutions did not have such asset-liability mismatches. However, he expressed concern about further rate increases by the RBI. Excerpts:

The government has put on hold the rationalisation exercise, initiated two years ago, to rejig the multiple GST rates and slabs. Could a rationalised GST rate structure be a trigger for domestic growth?

Absolutely. This continues to be one of CII's asks as well, including reducing the [28% rate] GST on cement because that benefits so many different sectors, including the whole infrastructure sector. It makes your cost of doing business that much lower and we hope that the government takes an early look at this. Again, as one is talking about private sector needs to look at growth, I guess they also need to see how to balance their fiscal deficit and bring it back within an acceptable norm. I am hopeful that if the RBI goes back to a neutral stance and then, thereafter to a stance that's accommodative to growth, you should start seeing the cycle of expansion of the economy taking place in the coming quarters. And that should then give confidence to the government also that their collections on taxes will increase, and they can review the rationalisation of the GST slabs.

Do Indian financial institutions need any support or forbearance to cope with the type of asset-liability mismatches troubling U.S. banks?

We have no reason to believe that there is significant mismatch overall. We also have to keep in mind that we have a finite number of banks and a proactive regulator. But it once again shows that banking as an institution is a long-term conservative institution and has to be run that way. I think the immediate contagion effect has hopefully been taken care of by the action in the U.S. But it is for the entire banking system to ensure that it has a robust balance sheet with assets and liabilities as matched as possible, and investments are made in a diversified set of instruments. Very often, what happens is because the interest rate curve differs in the short term and long term – if a lending institution is willing to play to get a higher return by borrowing more short and investing long, then when the short borrowing comes up for refinancing, you may not have the money or that cost may have gone up dramatically. This is what happened in this case. So prudent behaviour in banking is very important.

What about the impact on start-ups?

In hindsight, while it is probably very convenient for most of the start-up ecosystem to get access from one bank as it understands that space, you can't have one player with 40% market share. For India, the third-largest start-up nation, how do we ensure that our funding options for start-ups are strengthened and institutionalised? Tech start-ups' growth trajectory is very different from other small companies and traditional parameters for lending or investment would not work. We need to think about this... what is a prudent but supportive financial ecosystem for the start-up industry? We will take this issue up.

Kauvery Hospitals plans to invest ₹1,500 crore

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Sri Kauvery Medical Care (India) Ltd.. (Kauvery Hospitals) is planning to invest about ₹1,500 crore to double the number of beds in Tamil Nadu and Bengaluru over the next two years, said S. Chandra Kumar, founder-chairman, Kauvery Group of Hospitals.

"The plan is to take the number of beds from the existing 1,600 to over 3,000 in two years and then go for an IPO," he said. The expansion cost would be met through equity, debt and internal accruals. It had already raised $70 million from a private equity fund.

Shree Renuka Sugars to raise ethanol output by 25%

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Shree Renuka Sugars Ltd. plans to raise the production of ethanol by 25% next year as part of its drive towards green energy, according to executive chairman Atul Chaturvedi.

"In India the demand for ethanol is skyrocketing," he told *The Hindu*.

"Ethanol will be taking India to carbon neutrality. We are now selling 200 million litre of ethanol per annum to the government.

"This is significantly contributing to our revenue and helping in cash flow. We will be increasing output by 25% in FY24."

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಒಂದು ಉದ್ಯಮ)
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ ವಾರಾಹಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ವಿಭಾಗ
ಏದ್ದಾಪುರ, ಉಡುಪಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ. 576229 E-mail: eevpzone@gmail.com

ಕಛೇರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಕಾಇಂ/ಕನೀನಿ/ವಾಯೋವಿ/ಪಬಿ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/58, 59, 60, 61, 62 & 63/2022-23/1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958 & 1959 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16-03-2023.

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

(ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆ) **(Two tender document system)**

ವಾರಾಹಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಕಾರ್ಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಡಿ ಬರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ವಿವರಗಳು ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ

(1) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. (2) ಟೆಂಡರಿಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ **ರೂ. 249.89, 299.98, 319.75, 319.98, 359.78 & 359.90 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು** (3) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾದ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18/03/2023**. (4) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24/03/2023** (5) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಅಂರ್ತಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29/03/2023 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ (6) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30/03/2023 ಸಂಜೆ 5.15 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ** (7) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**, ಅಂರ್ತಜಾಲ ಅಥವಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಕನೀನಿನಿ, ವಾರಾಹಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಇವರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸುವುದು.
(8) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ, ಮಾರ್ಪಾಡು ಅಥವಾ ಇತರ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ, **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಚುರಪಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ವಾಸಾಇ/ಸನಿಉ/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/1033/22-23 ದಿ: 18.03.23

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಕನೀನಿನಿ., ವಾರಾಹಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಏದ್ದಾಪುರ ಉಡುಪಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕೊಡಗು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 45/2022-23/7311-15 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 16-03-2023

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 1999 ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಯಮಗಳು 2000 ರಂತೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ-3, 4 ರನ್ವಯ ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕೊಡಗು ವಿಭಾಗದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೆ.ಶೀ: 5054-04-337-0-01-154 ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ರಸ್ತೆಗಳು-ಸುಧಾರಣೆಗಳು (ಅಪೆಂಡಿಕ್ಸ್-'ಇ') ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿರಾಜಪೇಟೆ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ 1 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಲೆ.ಶೀ: 3054-04-337-1-10-200 ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮುಖ್ಯರಸ್ತೆ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ (ಮಳೆಹಾನಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ) ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ 1 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಇ-ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ಕನಿಷ್ಟ ರೂ. 62.54 ಲಕ್ಷ ಹಾಗೂ ಗರಿಷ್ಟ ರೂ. 192.88 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16-03-2023 ರಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 23-03-2023 ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆ http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಯಾವುದೇ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ/ಮಾರ್ಪಾಡುಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕೊಡಗು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No: EEE/AEE(E)/MWD/MDY/2021-22/2955 Date:17.03.2023

NOTIFICATION

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited has formulated a scheme under section 28 and clause(e) of section 18 of the Indian Electricity Supply Act 1948 and the scheme is herewith published in pursuance of section 29(2) of the said act and also under Indian Electricity Act 2003 section 67 to be read with 67(2), this notification is issued for information of the General public. Particulars of scheme are as hereunder.

(1) Name of the work: **Construction of 66kv SC line on DC Towers from existing 66/11kv Mandagere S/s to the proposed Railway Traction Substation at Mandagere for a distance of 2.240 Kms. along with construction of one no Terminal Bay at existing 66/11kv Mandagere S/s. (2)** Salient Feature: **Arranging power supply for their Railway Traction Substation. (3)** Areas Passing Through: **Doddamandagere village limits in Akkihebbal Hobli, K.R.Pet Taluk, Mandya district. The line passes through Survey Nos. 54,55,56,64,65,66,70,71,75,76,79,80,82,83, 84, 85 and 86. (4)** Approximate length line: **2.240 Kms. (5)** Approximate cost: **Rs. 400.25 Lakhs.** KPTCL shall have and exercise all powers under the section 164 of Indian Electricity Act 2003 read with para (iii) of the Indian Telegraph act 1885 (10 to 19 & 19A of 1885) for implementation of the above said scheme. Any objection regarding the above scheme shall be sent to the undersigned office within **01 Month** from the date of Publication of this notification for consideration by Corporation.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Ele)
Mandya Major Works Division, KPTCL,
N.R Mohalla, Mysuru-570 007

KARNATAKA URBAN WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD
Jalbhavan, BTM Layout, Bannerghatta Road,
Bengaluru - 560 029. Phone : 080 – 4110 6505
e-mail:cekwbbng@gmail.com Website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

No.KWB/CE(B)/AMRUT2.0/2461/2022-23 Dtd: 16/03/2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Electronic Procurement portal only)

The following tenders are invited (two cover system) through e-Procurement from eligible Agency/Contractors as detailed below:

Name and description of work: Tender for the work of "Providing missing distribution lines and house service connections to Doddaballapura city under AMRUT-2.0 on DBOT model (Lumpsum tender-NO variation) including 5 years of O & M period (including defect liability period 1 year).

No.KUWSDB/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT 3361.

Approximate value of work (Rs. in Crore) (Excluding GST): 7.92 (CAPEX:7.24 + OPEX: Rs.0.68). EMD: (Rs. in lakhs) (Including GST): 14.03. Tender Processing fee (Rs.): As per e-procurement portal. Period of completion Including monsoon (months): 9.

Calendar of Events:- (1) Date and time for commencement of downloading of Document: **20.03.2023 after 11:30 hours. (2)** Date and Time of Pre-bid meeting: **01.04.2023 at 11:30 hours. (3)** Last date and time for submission / uploading of the tender in the e-procurement portal: **18.04.2023 upto 17:30 hours. (4)** Date & Time of Opening of the Technical bids: **21.04.2023 after 11:00 hours.**

For further details, the Office of the Chief Engineer, KUWS & D Board, Bangalore, may please be contacted or website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or e-Procurement **helpdesk 080-4601 0000/080-6894 8777,** email support: **hphelpdesk.blr @intarvo.com**

Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER (B),
DIPR/CP/AAPL/RO5358(A)/22-23 **KUWS & D BOARD, BENGALURU**

MIXED DAY

Perez on pole as Verstappen lands in trouble; Alonso in front row

Red Bull's Sergio Perez took pole position in Saudi Arabia for the second year in a row after Formula One champion teammate Max Verstappen suffered a driveshaft failure and qualified only 15th. Aston Martin's 41-year-old Fernando Alonso will join the Mexican on the front row for Sunday's race in Jeddah.

BREEZY

Rybakina makes short work of Swiatek, sets up a Sabalenka final

Elena Rybakina eased past top-ranked Iga Swiatek 6-2, 6-2 to advance to the BNP Paribas Open final in Indian Wells on Friday. Rybakina will play second-seeded Aryna Sabalenka, who beat Maria Sakkari 6-2, 6-3, in Sunday's final in the Southern California desert. Rybakina needed just 76 minutes to beat Swiatek, the defending champion.

CAPTAINS TO THE FORE

Hope's century trumps Bavuma's as West Indies takes a 1-0 lead

West Indies rode on Shai Hope's unbeaten 128 to beat South Africa by 48 runs in the second ODI in East London on Saturday.
The scores: West Indies 335/8 in 50 overs (Shai Hope 128 n.o., Rovman Powell 46) bt South Africa 287 in 41.4 overs (Quinton de Kock 48, Temba Bavuma 144).

ON THE DOUBLE

Williamson and Nicholls send Sri Lanka on a leather hunt

Kane Williamson and Henry Nicholls scored double centuries and shared 363 runs as New Zealand declared at 580 for four on the second day of the second Test against Sri Lanka in Wellington on Saturday.
The scores: New Zealand 580/4 decl. in 123 overs (Williamson 215, Nicholls 200 n.o., Conway 78) vs Sri Lanka 26/2 in 17 overs.

ATK MB wins maiden title on a night of twists and high drama

The Mariners trump Bengaluru FC in the shootout after clawing back from 1-2 down to take the grand finale to extra-time; Krishna for the loser and Manvir for the winner fluff chances before Kaith saves Ramires' penalty to emerge the hero

ISL-9

M.R. Praveen Chandran
MADGAON

A fractious encounter with lots of twists and drama came to a glorious conclusion with ATK MB winning its maiden ISL title after shooting out BFC 4-3 in the final here on Saturday.

The teams shared four goals in regular time before extra-time failed to break the deadlock. Golden Glove winner Vishal Kaith was ATK MB's hero when he stopped Bruno Ramires' attempt in the shootout. BFC's Pabalo Perez sent his effort over the bar much to the delight of the Mariners' supporters in the stands.

After Bengaluru FC lost key striker Sivasakthi to an injury in the first minute, Roy Krishna's opportunism kept it in the contest.

The failure of BFC's defence to clear away the first corner resulted in ATK MB going ahead. After BFC goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh made a reflex save off a header, both Roy Krishna and Ashique went for the loose ball which brushed Krishna's arm. Referee Harish Kundu awarded a penalty which was converted by Dimitrios Petratos, his 11th goal of the season.

Guts and glory: ATK MB overcame a fighting Bengaluru FC to win the ultimate prize. FOCUS SPORTS/ISL

As half-time loomed, a lapse in concentration by ATK MB's defence saw BFC score the equaliser. Krishna chased a through pass from Suresh Singh. ATK MB defender Subhashish Bose tried to clear the ball and hit Krishna's knee, bringing him down. Chhetri, from the spot, sent Kaith the wrong way.

In the second half, BFC stung with fast counter-attacks and one such move resulted in the corner which paved the way for the second goal as Krishna headed home from the far post in the 78th minute.

But there was more drama as Pablo Perez brought down Kiyan Nissari inside the box and Petratos converted his second penalty of the day to restore parity in the 85th. In the shootout, Kaith and ATK MB ruled the night.

The result:
ATK Mohun Bagan 2 (Dimirios Petratos 14, 85) drew with Bengaluru FC 2 (Sunil Chhetri 45+5, Roy Krishna 78) (ATK MB won 4-3 on penalties).

Special awards: Golden Boot: Diego Mauricio (Odisha FC); **Golden Glove:** Vishal Kaith (ATK MB); **Golden Ball:** Lallianzuala Chhangte (Mumbai City FC).

Emerging player: Sivasakthi (Bengaluru FC); **Grassroots Award:** Bengaluru FC, FC Goa.

'Devine' intervention keeps Royal Challengers alive

P.K. Ajith Kumar
MUMBAI

Royal Challengers Bangalore needed some divine intervention to keep its slender hopes alive. It came in the form of an astounding innings from Sophie Devine.

Devine, on Saturday night at the Brabourne Stadium here, played what should be one of the great knocks in women's T20 cricket. It was power-hitting at its best.

Her 99 off just 36 balls (9x4, 8x6) took RCB to an eight-wicket win against Gujarat Giants, with 4.3 overs to spare. She dwarfed the Giants' total of 188 for four – which had looked above par given the scores in the last few matches – in stunning fashion.

The Kiwi all-rounder began her show, slog-sweeping Ashleigh Gardner for a six in the second over, in which she struck another six and three fours.

She hit the ball ferociously. Some of the biggest sixes of the WPL came from her bat.

Her sensational knock ended, one short of what would have been a well-deserved hundred: she was well-caught at the edge of the circle by Ashwani Kumari at mid-off off Kim Garth.

Her opening stand of 125 with Smriti Mandhana (37, 31b, 5x4, 1x6) had put the chase on track. RCB was taken home by Ellyse Perry (19 n.o., 12b) and Heather Knight (22 n.o., 15b).

Earlier, Laura Wolvaardt's second successive fifty (68, 42b, 9x4, 2x6) and another hard-hitting knock from Gardner (41, 26b, 6x4, 1x6) were the highlights of Giants' innings.

Demolition job: Devine's blinder, a 36-ball 99, knocked the stuffing out of the Giants' attack. SPORTZPICS/WPL

Points table

	Matches	W	L	Pts	NRR
Mumbai Indians (Q)	6	5	1	10	2.670
Delhi Capitals (Q)	6	4	2	8	1.431
UP Warriorz	6	3	3	6	-0.117
Royal Challengers	7	2	5	4	-1.044
Gujarat Giants	7	2	5	4	-2.511

*After the RCB-GG match on March 18 **Q: Qualified**

SCOREBOARD

GUJARAT GIANTS
Sophia Dunkley b Devine 16 *(10b, 3x4)*, Laura Wolvaardt c Preeti b Shreyanka 68 *(42b, 9x4, 2x6)*, S. Meghana st. Richa b Preeti 31 *(32b, 4x4)*, Ashleigh Gardner lbw b Shreyanka 41 *(26b, 6x4, 1x6)*, D. Hemalatha (not out) 16 *(6b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Harleen Deol (not out) 12 *(5b, 1x4, 1x6)*; Extras (w-3, nb-1): 4; Total (for four wkts. in 20 overs): 188.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-27 (Dunkley, 2.4 overs), 2-90 (Meghana, 11.5), 3-142 (Wolvaardt, 16.6), 4-161 (Gardner, 18.3).

RCB BOWLING
Devine 3-0-23-1, Schutt 4-0-53-0, Perry 3-0-25-0, Asha 4-0-35-0, Preeti 3-0-23-1, Knight 1-0-12-0, Shreyanka 2-0-17-2.

ROYAL CHALLENGERS
Smriti Mandhana c & b Sneh 37 *(31b, 5x4, 1x6)*, Sophie Devine c Ashwani b Garth 99 *(36b, 9x4, 8x6)*, Ellyse Perry (not out) 19 *(12b, 3x4)*, Heather Knight (not out) 22 *(15b, 4x4)*; Extras (b-2, lb-4, w-5, nb-1): 12; Total (for two wkts. in 15.3 overs): 189.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-125 (Smriti, 9.2), 2-157 (Devine, 11.5).

GUJARAT GIANTS BOWLING
Garth 4-0-32-1, Gardner 3-0-48-0, Sneh 3.3-0-25-1, Tanuja 3-0-50-0, Harleen 1-0-10-0, Ashwani 1-0-18-0.

Toss: Giants; **PoM:** Devine.
RCB won by eight wickets with 27 balls remaining.

Tough going: Treesa and Gayatri found the Korean pair of Baek and Lee tough to handle. AP

Treesa-Gayatri duo exits in semifinals

BADMINTON

Press Trust of India
BIRMINGHAM

Treesa and Gayatri lost 10-21, 10-21 in 46 minutes
The Koreans turn into a retrieving machine, forcing the Indians into errors

Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand's great run came to an end as the Indian pair signed off with a second successive semifinal finish at the All England Championships here on Saturday.

The two young shuttlers found the going tough against the Korean World No. 20 duo of Baek Na Ha and Lee So Hee, losing 10-21, 10-21 in a 46-minute contest.

Panicked a bit

"We learnt a lot from this match. The difference was they didn't leave a shuttle and we did panic a bit," said Gayatri. "I was nervous. There was pressure."

Treesa added: "When we played against them, their defence was good, it was better than yesterday. We were just panicking and didn't play well, we just kept attacking."

The Koreans turned into a retrieving machine as they defended seamlessly and extended the rallies with their high tosses and lifts to not allow the Indians to play their short flat rally game.

In women's singles, China's Chen Yu Fei dethroned Akane Yamaguchi, defeating the Japanese 21-17, 21-8 in the semifinals.

Other results (semifinals):
Men: Shi Yu Qui (Chn) bt Lee Zii Jia (Mas) 21-19, 21-13. **Doubles:** Mohd. Ahsan & Hendra Setiawan (Ina) bt Lian Wei Keng & Wang Chang (Chn) 21-15, 19-21, 29-27. **Mixed doubles:** Zheng Si Wei & Huang Ya Qiong (Chn) bt Rehan Naufal Kusharjanto & Lisa Ayu Kusumawati (Ina) 21-17, 13-21, 21-13.

Rohit returns as Men in Blue look to seal series

AUSTRALIA IN INDIA

S. Dipak Ragav
VISAKHAPATNAM

India will look to wrap up the ODI series against Australia when the two sides meet here at the Dr. Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy ACA-VDCA Cricket Stadium for the second ODI on Sunday.

In the series opener in Mumbai, the hosts fought back after losing the early momentum in both stages of the match to post a five-wicket win and go 1-0 up in the three-match series.

Regular skipper Rohit Sharma will take over the reins from Hardik Pandya after missing the first game for personal reasons. His return will bolster the top order which struggled against Mitchell Starc on Friday. Ishan Kishan is likely to make way.

Crucial part

The ongoing series is a crucial part of the preparations for the World Cup later this year in India, and the Men in Blue can take heart from the fact there were some bright spots after the first match.

In Jasprit Bumrah's absence, pacers Mohammed Shami and Mohammed Siraj rose to the occasion with three wickets each. Notably, five of the six were during the middle overs, which triggered the Aussie collapse.

Clear edge: Rahul back amongst the runs augurs well for India, as his wicketkeeping lends fine balance to the side. EMMANUAL YOGINI

With the bat, K.L. Rahul guided India to victory with a well crafted unbeaten 75 when the side was in trouble at 16 for three. The Karnataka batter holds the key for the team's chances in the quadrennial event as a wicketkeeper-batter in the middle-order.

The Wankhede pitch assisted the quicks, but Vizag has traditionally been a high-scoring venue with help for spinners. There is also the possibility of showers on match day, with the city also receiving a spell of rain on Saturday evening.

Meanwhile, Australia will look to put up a better show with the bat after losing the last eight wickets for just 59 runs in the opening fixture. If David Warner and Alex Carey are fit to take the field, it should help things for the visitors. But the bigger worry is skipper Steve Smith's form, as he has yet to score a fifty on this tour.

In the last seven years, India's only ODI series defeat in its backyard came against Australia before the 2019 World Cup (3-2). The team from Down Under will need to produce a disciplined effort on Sunday if it hopes to repeat that feat.

The teams (from):
India: Rohit Sharma (Capt.), Hardik Pandya, Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, K.L. Rahul, Ishan Kishan, Ravindra Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav, Washington Sundar, Yuzvendra Chahal, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Umran Malik, Shardul Thakur, Axar Patel and Jaydev Unadkat.
Australia: Steven Smith (Capt.), David Warner, Travis Head, Marnus Labuschagne, Mitchell Marsh, Marcus Stoinis, Alex Carey, Glenn Maxwell, Cameron Green, Josh Inglis, Sean Abbott, Ashton Agar, Mitchell Starc, Nathan Ellis and Adam Zampa.
Match starts at 1.30 p.m.

Warriorz stun Mumbai Indians

Shayan Acharya
NAVI MUMBAI

UP Warriorz rode on Sophie Ecclestone (three for 15) and Grace Harris (39, 28b, 7x4) to hand Mumbai Indians a five-wicket defeat, the latter's first in the Women's Premier League (WPL).

MI struggled to get going at the D.Y. Patil Stadium on Saturday after being put in to bat. With the Warriorz spinners on song, MI lost wickets at regular intervals before Issy Wong's 19-ball 32 (4x4, 1x6) took it to a competitive 127.

With Warriorz in trouble at 27 for three, Harris and Tahlia McGrath forged a 44-run stand.

Harris, who played a match-winning knock in Warriorz' opening contest before inexplicably getting dropped for the next, set the tone for Warriorz' victory with yet another classy innings. Just when she looked like taking the team home, Harris was caught by Wong off Amelia Kerr.

However, Ecclestone (16 n.o., 17b, 1x4, 1x6) and Deepti Sharma (13 n.o., 14b, 1x4) guided Warriorz home.

SCOREBOARD

MUMBAI INDIANS
Hayley Matthews c Healy b Ecclestone 35 *(30b, 1x4, 3x6)*, Yastika Bhatia b Anjali 7 *(15b)*, Nat Sciver-Brunt lbw b Ecclestone 5 *(8b, 1x4)*, Harmanpreet Kaur c Simran b Deepti 25 *(22b, 3x4)*, Amelia Kerr c Parshavi b Rajeshwari 3 *(5b)*, Issy Wong run out 32 *(19b, 4x4, 1x6)*, Amanjot Kaur st. Healy b Ecclestone 5 *(7b)*, Humaira Kazi b Rajeshwari 4 *(6b)*, Dhara Gujjar b Deepti 3 *(3b)*, Saika Ishaque run out 0 *(2b)*, Jintimani Kalita (not out) 3 *(3b)*; Extras (b-1, w-4): 5; Total (in 20 overs): 127.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-30 (Yastika, 4.5 overs), 2-39 (Sciver-Brunt, 7.3), 3-57 (Matthews, 10.4), 4-77 (Amelia, 12.6), 5-78 (Harmanpreet, 13.2), 6-98 (Amanjot, 15.5), 7-103 (Humaira, 16.6), 8-111 (Dhara, 17.5), 9-127 (Wong, 19.4).

UP WARRIORZ BOWLING
Rajeshwari 4-0-16-2, Harris 2-0-15-0, Anjali 2-0-10-1, Parshavi 4-0-35-0, Ecclestone 4-0-15-3, Deepti 4-0-35-2.

UP WARRIORZ
Devika Vaidya c Harmanpreet b Matthews 1 *(7b)*, Alyssa Healy lbw b Wong 8 *(10b, 1x4)*, Kiran Navgire c Yastika b Sciver-Brunt 12 *(16b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Tahlia McGrath c & b Amelia 38 *(25b, 6x4, 1x6)*, Deepti Sharma (not out) 13 *(14b, 1x4)*, Sophie Ecclestone (not out) 16 *(17b, 1x4, 1x6)*; Extras (w-2): 2; Total (for five wkts. in 19.3 overs): 129.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-1 (Devika, 1.1), 2-21 (Healy, 5.1), 3-27 (Kiran, 6.1), 4-71 (McGrath, 11.5), 5-105 (Harris, 15.4).

MUMBAI INDIANS BOWLING
Sciver-Brunt 4-0-24-1, Matthews 4-0-26-1, Saika 4-0-22-0, Wong 2.3-0-24-1, Amelia 4-0-22-2, Amanjot 1-0-11-0.

Toss: UPW; **PoM:** Deepti.
Warriorz won by five wkts. with three balls remaining.
Sunday is a rest day.

INBRIEF

Bracewell joins RCB as a replacement for Jacks

Royal Challengers Bangalore has signed New Zealand's Michael Bracewell for his base price of ₹1 crore as a replacement for England batter Will Jacks for the Indian Premier League 2023. Jacks, who was ruled out of the tournament due to an injury, was bought by the franchise for ₹3.2 crore. Bracewell has played 16 T20Is, scored 113 runs and picked up 21 wickets.

Bopanna, Ebden a step away from the title at Indian Wells

Rohan Bopanna and Matthew Ebden defeated John Isner and Jack Sock 7-6(6), 7-6(2) in the doubles semifinals of the $10,143,750 ATP tennis in Indian Wells, USA.

Other results: $15,000 ITF men, Kish Island, Iran: Semifinals: Hazem Naw (Syr) bt SD Prajwal Dev 6-1, 6-4.

Phantom Strikers down Hawks in final, clinch title

Phantom Strikers Bengaluru defeated top-seeded Delhi Hawks 418-357 in the final to win the Karnataka Open trios tenpin bowling tournament in Bengaluru recently. Triple Threat Chennai and Bengal Shield, who lost in the semifinals, finished with the bronze. In the semifinals, Hawks defeated Triple Threat 350-311 while Phantom Strikers pipped Bengal Shield 427-421. Phantom Strikers was represented by Misam Rizvi, Kishan R and Abhishek Maheswari. As many as 34 teams from Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi and West Bengal took part.

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: MTV, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 5.30 a.m.
Golf: DGC Open, Eurosport (SD & HD), 12 p.m. onwards
India vs Australia: 2nd ODI, Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 1.30 p.m.
BWF: All-England Open, Sports 18-1 & Jio Cinema App, 3.30 p.m. onwards
Premier League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 8 & 11 p.m.
Serie A: Sports 18-1 & Jio Cinema App, 11 p.m.
LaLiga: Sports 18-1 HD & Jio Cinema App, 1.30 a.m. (Monday)
New Zealand vs Sri Lanka: 2nd Test, day 4, Prime Video, 3.30 a.m. (Monday)

Teenager Preeti Sai stuns top seed Perijoc

Wins 4-3 after a 'bout review' to set up a pre-quarterfinal date with Thailand's Jitpong; Commonwealth Games champion Nitu Ghanghas and National champion Manju Bamboriya win convincingly to bring cheers to the home camp

BOXING WORLDS

Y.B. Sarangi
NEW DELHI

Nineteen-year-old Preeti Sai Pawar displayed a superb combination of skills and maturity to stun current silver medallist and top seed Lacramioara Perijoc in a fiercely-fought 54kg second round bout of the World women's boxing championships at the K.D. Jadhav Hall here on Saturday.

Preeti pipped Romanian Perijoc, the World No. 2 and a 2019 European champion, 4-3 following 'bout review' to set up a pre-quarterfinal clash with another 2022 Worlds silver medallist (52kg) Jutamas Jitpong of Thailand.

Commonwealth Games champion Nitu Ghanghas (48kg), who returned to action after a lay-off, and National champion Manju Bamboriya (66kg) also won convincingly to spread cheers in the home camp.

Staying calm: Preeti came up with excellent counter-attacks to emerge victorious against Perijoc of Romania in the 54kg category. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

An Asian bronze medallist, Preeti was magnificent in the second bout of her first World championship. She took the opening round 3-2 following a heavy exchange of punches and trailed 2-3 in the next.

Backed by a partisan crowd, Preeti maintained her composure. Relying on her quick feet, the Haryana boxer executed her counter-attacks well even while taking care of her defence in the action-packed third round to emerge triumphant.

"I prepared hard, wanted to prove that I am no less. In the last round, I was taking a step back to avoid my opponent's punches and counter-attack," said a confident Preeti.

Raining punches

Nitu rained punches to seize initiative against Asian bronze medallist Doyeon Kang of South Korea.

Two counts on Doyeon were good enough for the referee to stop the contest in less than two minutes of the first round.

Nitu will meet Tajikistan's Sumaiya Qosimova in the pre-quarters.

In her second World championship after 2019, tall southpaw Manju got the better of five-time New Zealand champion Cara Wharerau with a 5-0 verdict.

She will face Asian champion and No.1 seed Navbakhor Khamidova in the last-16.

Important results (preliminary rounds):

48kg: Madoka Wada (Jpn) bt Chien-Ling Liu (Tpe) 5-0; Sumaiya Qosimova (Tjk) 4-3; Nitu Ghanghas bt Doyeon Kang RSC-R1; Iuliia Chumgalakova (Rus) bt Ngyuen Thi Hoi (Vie) bt 5-0.

54kg: Delphine Mancini (Fra) bt Estefani de Leon (Dom) 4-1; Karina Tazabekova (Rus) bt Regina Benilde (Moz) 3-1; Preeti Sai Pawar bt Lacramioara Perijoc 4-3; Jutamas Jitpong (Tha) bt minu Gurung (Nep) 5-0;

66kg: Beatriz Soares (Bra) bt Maria Hernandez (Gua) 5-0; Liu Yang (Chn) bt Nien-Chin Chen (Tpe) 5-0; Manju Bamboriya bt Cara Wharerau (NZ) 5-0.

The Worlds is the start of Olympics prep: Mossely

Y.B. Sarangi
NEW DELHI

Having made a fine comeback in an elite amateur event after seven years by winning her first bout in the World women's boxing championships here, the 2016 World and Olympic champion Estelle Mossely is now focusing on next year's Paris Olympics.

The 30-year-old Frenchwoman, who returned from professional boxing, was relieved after getting past Thailand's Prontip Buapa in a 60kg opening round bout.

"The first bout is always hard. You have to be focused. You wait a long time before it. I did everything I wanted to do in this fight. Now it will be better in every fight," Estelle told *The Hindu*.

"It has been a long time (since I competed in a World championship), but I am happy to take part in this competition. It's a big moment for me because it is the beginning of the preparation for the Olympic Games.

Take that: Former Olympic and World champion Mossely, right, in action at the World championships on Friday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

"It's a good start for me. Before the competition, I said every fight will be like a final for me. I refocus every time in each fight."

Lots of camps

Giving an idea about the French team's home Olympics, Estelle said, "For me, I have my team. Sometimes I train with the French team.

"We will have a lot of training camps.

"We will move to a maximum number of countries (to train there) because the style is very different in every country and every continent.

"But now we focus on this competition because this is the best event before the Olympic Games qualification. This is the first step. The next step will be qualification. Between this competition and the next one, we will have a lot of preparation and sparring."

Estelle said she was delighted to see Indian world champions M.C. Mary Kom and Nikhat Zareen, the two flag-bearers of women's boxing from the host nation.

Rashid bounces back, leads Chikka by three shots

DGC OPEN

Rakesh Rao
NEW DELHI

Following contrasting performances on Saturday, new front-runner Rashid Khan dethroned leader S. Chikkarangappa and gatecrasher Honey Baisoya kept alive prospects of a home-grown champion at the $750,000 DGC Open golf on Sunday.

Rashid started with a double-bogey to trail Chikkarangappa by five shots but ended the day three shots ahead after a four-under 68 kept him at 11-under 205.

On a day when play was suspended briefly due to inclement weather, Rashid twice found the bushes on the opening hole.

After taking a penalty drop, Rashid missed a bogey-putt from under five feet on the par-5 hole. Thereafter, Rashid did not put a foot wrong.

He birdied the second, fourth, fifth and seventh holes to put the pressure back on Chikkarangappa who dropped a shot on the third and held par right through the front-nine.

Rashid. ASIAN TOUR

At the turn, the players were level at 9-under where they were temporarily joined by Nirat Chapchai.

Rashid moved into the lead at 10-under on the 11th hole, doubled his lead on the 14th hole and enlarged it to three strokes when Chikkarangappa bogeyed the 15th.

Eventful round

Chapchai, the closest to deny an Indian triumph on Sunday, had an eventful round. After a flawless 32 on the opening nine holes, Chapchai had a double-bogey, three bogeys and two birdies for a back-nine 39.

The scores (third round):

205: Rashid Khan (67, 70, 68); **208:** S. Chikkarangappa (68, 66, 74); **210:** Honey Baisoya (71, 74, 65), Chapchai Nirat (Tha) (68, 71, 71), Om Prakash Chouhan (69, 68, 73); **211:** Miguel Tabuena (Phi) (68, 71, 72), Justin Quiban (Phi) (67, 71, 73) and Matt Killen (Eng) (68, 69, 74).

Other Indians: 213: S.S.P. Chawrasia (72, 70, 71), Gaganjit Bhullar (74, 71, 68); **214:** Yashas Chandra (72, 72, 70), Karandeep Kochhar (71, 69, 74); **215:** Shamim Khan (72, 70, 73), Shaurya Bhattacharya (A) (71, 75, 69); **217:** Karan Pratap Singh (75, 68, 74); **218:** Sachin Baisoya (71, 72, 75), Harshjeet Singh Sethia (74, 72, 72); **219:** Ranjit Singh (70, 75, 74), Jyoti Randhawa (73, 69, 77); **220:** Shiv Kapur (75, 69, 76), Angad Cheema (72, 73, 75); Veer Ahlawat (72, 73, 75); **221:** Manav Jaini (65, 75, 81).

Gaurav Gill consolidates lead in Asia Rally Cup

MOTORSPORTS

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

Bringing into play his vast experience, Gaurav Gill (co-driver Aniruddha Rangnekar) survived tricky conditions following a spell of rain to consolidate his overall lead in the FIA-Asia Pacific Rally Championship (Asia Rally Cup) on Saturday.

In the 46th South India Rally, overnight INRC leader Karna Kadur (Nikhil Pai) was among a host of competitors caught out by the afternoon showers and dropped down the order.

Mangaluru's Aroor Arjun Rao (Satish Rajagopal) moved into the lead, albeit just a few seconds ahead of Delhi's Philippos Matthai (PV Srinivasa Murthy).

Provisional results (partial unofficial classification, after Leg-1):

APRC: 1. Gaurav Gill & Aniruddha Rangnekar (1hr, 03mins, 04.0secs); 2. Pornsiricherd Mana & Thanyaphat Meenil (Thailand) (1:04:43.2); 3. Karna Kadur & Nikhil Pai (01:06:56.1).

Scorching the track: Arjun battled the conditions well after showers made it difficult for drivers. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

INRC: 1. Aroor Arjun Rao & Satish Rajagopal (1:05:47.7); 2. Philippos Matthai & P.V. Srinivasa Murthy (1:05:52.9); 3. Karna Kadur & Nikhil Pai (1:06:56.1).

INRC-2: 1. Philippos Matthai & P.V. Srinivasa Murthy (1:05:52.9); 2. Sahil Khanna & Harish Gowda (1:09:35.3); 3. Chetan Shivram & Dilip Sharan (1:08.58.7).

INRC-3: 1. Sheshank Jamwal & Aseem Sharma (1:07:22.7); 2. Daraius Shroff & Shahid Salman (1:07:25.6); 3. Vishakh Balachandran & Anil Abbas (1:08:16.9).

INRC-4: 1. Abhin Rai & D. Uday Kumar (1:12:02.7); 2. K.V. Dheeraj & Pramod Rajan (1:13:24.9); 3. Renuka Gajendran & Angela James (1:28.55.5).

Junior INRC: Arnav Pratap Singh & S.S.B. Arjun (1:08:22.6); 2. Arjun Rajeev & Rohith Gowda (1:09:10.1); 3. Jahan Singh Gill & Sujraj Keshava (1:10:28.0).

Ladies: 1. Pragathi Gowda & Trisha Alonkar (01:08:58.6); 2. Renuka Gajendran & Angela James (01:28:55.5).

BENGALURU ROUND UP

Tarun, Abhay the stars as Vydehi School of Excellence enters final

Tarun Balamurugan (97) and Abhay Chandra (4/6) helped Vydehi School of Excellence thrash AC School by 183 runs to enter the final of the BTR Shield (Group I) under-14 third division tournament. In the summit clash, Vydehi School will take on The Sports School, which beat Presidency School, RT Nagar by 111 runs.

The scores (semifinals): The Sports School 186 in 47.5 overs (Athreya Bhat 28, Tanay 62, Aman 4/27) bt Presidency School, RT Nagar 75 in 29.2 overs. Vydehi School of Excellence 270/6 in 50 overs (Tarun Balamurugan 97, Sharvil Naik 71, Chirag Padikondala 26, Roger 3/18) bt AC School 87 in 30.2 overs (Kanishk 29, Abhay Chandra 4/6).

Karthik and Shilpa crowned champions

K. Karthik and K.P. Shilpa emerged the men's and women's singles champions respectively at the AITA Tabebuia Open Wheelchair tennis tournament that concluded on Saturday.

The results (finals):
Singles: Men: K. Karthik bt Shekar Veeraswamy 6-1, 6-3; **Women:** K.P. Shilpa bt Prathima Rao 7-6(3), 6-0;
Doubles: Men: Shekar Veeraswamy & S. Balachander bt K. Karthik & D. Mariyappan 3-6, 6-2, [15-13].

All smiles: Shilpa and Karthik, the singles champions at the AITA Tabebuia Open Wheelchair tennis tournament. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Manikanta sizzles

Manikanta starred with 36 points as ASC beat Mangalore BC 81-56 in the State A-division basketball league championship.

The results:
ASC 81 (Manikanta 36, Ravikumar 20) bt Mangalore BC 56 (Pradyumna 16, Rajath 16); DYES Bangalore 75 (Akshay 21, Manoj 18) bt IBBC 55 (Yeshwanth 19, Suresh 13).

Roots FC rides on Franco's late winner

Jonathan Ian Franco's 82nd minute winner helped Roots FC beat FC Bengaluru United 2-1 in the Reliance Foundation under-21 development league.

The results:
Roots 2 (Suman S. Dev OG-40, Jonathan Ian Franco 82) bt FC Bengaluru United 1 (Reuel Melvin Fernandes 60).

Divo takes the honours

RACING

BENGALURU: Darius Byramji-trained Divo (Zervan up) won the Sea Biscuit Salver, the feature event of the races held here on Saturday (March 18). The winner is owned by Mr. Maria Prashanth, Manjri Horse Breed Farm Pvt Ltd & Mr. Darius R. Byramji. Jockey Trevor won three races on the day.

THE RESULTS:

1. DUDHSAGAR FALLS PLATE (DIV. II): ALDGATE (S. John) 1, Opus One (Trevor) 2, Belvedere (Srinath) 3 and Arrowette (Darshan) 4. Not run: The Strikingly. 3/4, 4-3/4 and 1-1/4. 1m, 17.16s. ₹29 (w), 14, 11 and 14 (p), SHP: 21, THP: 38, FP: 92, Q: 45, Trinella: 379, Exacta: 567. Favourite: Arrowette. Owners: Mr. Haider Soomar, Mr. Rajan Aggarwal & Mr. Gautam Aggarwal. Trainer: Arjun Mangalorkar.

2. CHITRAKOTE FALLS PLATE (DIV. II): ULTIMATE STRIKER (Trevor) 1, Altair (Hasib Alam) 2, Flamingo Road (Rayan) 3 and Baltimore (S. John) 4. 2, 1 and 1. 1m, 16.09s. ₹24 (w), 12, 18 and 14 (p), SHP: 46, THP: 65, FP: 165, Q: 68, Trinella: 287, Exacta: 718. Favourite: Flamingo Road. Owners: Mr. H.K. Lakshman Gowda, Mr. Sharath M. Narayana, Mr. N. Prem Kumar & Mr. Shailendra Singh. Trainer: V. Lokanath.

3. KADAMBI FALLS PLATE: SEE MY HEELS (Trevor) 1, Lycurgus (Zervan) 2, Golden Time (L.A. Rozario) 3 and Ruling Goddess (Srinath) 4. 1-1/2, 3/4 and 3-3/4. 1m, 42.05s. ₹34 (w), 14, 16 and 11 (p), SHP: 59, THP: 49, FP: 251, Q: 163, Trinella: 704, Exacta: 2,263. Favourite: Golden Time. Owners: Mr. Daulat Chhabria & Mr. S. Narredu. Trainer: S. Narredu.

4. SEA BISCUIT SALVER: DIVO (Zervan) 1, Seeking The Stars (Srinath) 2, The Gallery Time (Sai Kiran) 3 and Fifth Element (Hasib Alam) 4. 4-1/2, Lnk and 1-1/2. 1m, 10.17s. ₹23 (w), 11, 10 and 26 (p), SHP: 27, THP: 46, FP: 40, Q: 17, Trinella: 263, Exacta: 901. Favourite: Seeking The Stars. Owners: Mr. Maria Prashanth, Manjri Horse Breed Farm Pvt Ltd & Mr. Darius R. Byramji. Trainer: Darius Byramji.

5. P.V. SHETTY MEMORIAL TROPHY: DISRUPTOR (Srinath) 1, Inyouwebelieve (Trevor) 2, Kulsum (L.A. Rozario) 3 and Wild Emperor (Darshan) 4. 3/4, 1/2 and 1-1/2. 1m, 28.69s. ₹26 (w), 13, 10 and 25 (p), SHP: 30, THP: 50, FP: 46, Q: 21. Trinella: 338, Exacta: 626. Favourite: Inyouwebelieve. Owners: Hyperion Bloodstock Pvt Ltd rep. by Mr & Mrs. Farouq K. Rattonsey, Mr. Sameer F. Rattonsey and Mr. Zaheer F. Rattonsey, Mr. P. Prabhakar Reddy & Mr. Rama Seshu Eyunni. Trainer: S. Attaollahi.

6. DUDHSAGAR FALLS PLATE (DIV. I): SOUTHERN FORCE (Srinath) 1, Remontoir (R. Girish) 2, Sheer Bliss (Vinod Shinde) 3 and Sociable (L.A. Rozario) 4. 1-1/4, 1-1/2 and 3/4. 1m, 14.05s. ₹27 (w), 14, 74 and 17 (p), SHP: 460, THP: 39, FP: 2,284, Q: 1,159, Trinella: 8,277, Exacta: 26,033. Favourite: Sociable. Owners: Dr. Arun Raghavan & Mr. Dayanand Kachuwah. Trainer: Faraz Arshad.

7. CHITRAKOTE FALLS PLATE (DIV. I): RIGHTLY NOBLE (Trevor) 1, Musterion (S. John) 2, Chain Of Thoughts (L.A. Rozario) 3 and Smile Around (Koshi K) 4. Hd, Shd and 1. 1m, 16.05s. ₹23 (w), 12, 13 and 15 (p), SHP: 69, THP: 43, FP: 113, Q: 59, Trinella: 357, Exacta: 1,661. Favourite: Rightly Noble. Owners: Mr. Tatineni Prasad Rao, Mr. R. Shiva Shankar & Mr. M. Satyanarayana. Trainer: B. Prithviraj.

Jackpot: ₹2,019 (40 tkts.); Runner up: 393 (88 tkts.); Treble (i): 233 (30 tkts.); (ii): 312 (48 tkts.).